

Poppy POV

"Gosh, Poppy!" Anna rolled her eyes. "Just listen to me and after that you can make whatever conclusion you want to, okay?" She stood against a chair as she watched me with a worried expression.

Honestly, I wasn't liking the way Anna was acting. She was acting all motherly and protective. More than I needed. I didn't want to hear a word about Hilda. She was the mother I never had, the guardian angel who was with me through the rough times. I was wolf less and my grandfather beat me so much just to get my wolf out. Hilda was the one who would come to me and tend to my wounds. "You don't know what darkness I have survived Anna and it wouldn't have been possible without Hilda. I won't listen to your stupid allegations."

I got out of Damon's protective embrace and turned my attention to water, which I poured in a cup. "This tea has calmed me so much you wouldn't be able to fathom. From the past few days, I have been too anxious. It was as if something was stirring inside me. Like I couldn't rest properly, but after yesterday I am feeling better. Guess why? Because I had the tea. In my opinion this tea should be made popular. Every shifter who is unable to rest well can have it."

Suddenly, my phone rang and I rushed to my bedroom to pick it up. "Hilda!" I exclaimed. She had some timing. We were just talking about her. I wanted to tell her about Anna's stupid claims about her tea, but then thought that it would make her sad. "How are you?"

"I am well," she replied softly. "And how are you my little girl?"

"I am well, too. I had the tea last night and I am feeling better." I knew this would make her feel happy. My heart swelled with love for her.

"Good," she said and I could imagine the satisfied grin on her face. "I called you for another news."

"Oh!" Suddenly, my body was gripped with fear. "Was Grandfather coming to the academy or calling me back? "What news?" I asked, my voice low.

"Your grandfather has finally agreed to send Sinclair to the academy!" she said in a cheerful voice.

"Sinclair?" I was stunned. He was Hilda's son and a very nice wolf. Always been very kind to me. I had seen his wolf. It was big and strong. "That's awesome!" I said. But it was also very surprising. Grandfather never really spent money so generously and sending Sinclair to the academy meant spending at least a million dollars. Plus what was the purpose? This was a huge step on my grandfather's part.

What was he planning? The academy was for Alpha heirs and those associated with them.

Hilda giggled, bringing me back from my thoughts. "I am so happy! I don't know why, but Alpha James was convinced by Sinclair. He will be there for the next four years and he is going to keep you protected!"

I was surprised, but the news was great. Having someone from my pack would be awesome. "Congratulations Hilda!"

"Thanks Poppy. You know this is so huge for us. Sinclair is extremely happy. He is going to be with you from now on."

I took a shaky breath in. "When is he arriving?"

"In two days."

"Great!" I was bewildered. Everything was happening so fast that I wasn't finding time to think about it. Nash had come and now Sinclair would be coming too. What was it that fate planned for me? But Nash and Sinclair were different. Sinclair was my pack.

Hilda went on speaking about it for the next fifteen minutes more. Stunned, I tossed the phone on the bed and went back to the kitchen. I found Damon and Anna in some deep conversation. I wondered if I should tell them about Sinclair. I switched on the kettle for the water to boil again.

"You are not going to have that tea unless you listen to me!" Anna said in a very stern voice. "If I have to use my magic to get through that stubborn mind of yours, I will!"

That was it. "Anna!" I shouted, turning sharply to glare at her. "Stop being so fussy and stop protecting me like you know everything about me!"

"Poppy," Damon took my hand. "Is there a harm in listening to her? I am extremely sure that there is nothing in this tea, but now that Anna has brought it up, how about we just dispel these doubts? Once it is proven that she is wrong, she will be quiet about it forever. Think about it like this—" Damon's lips tugged up in a smirk. "Anna would stop harping about your tea. Forever."

"But Damon—" I protested.

He placed a finger on my lips. "Give her a chance."

I pursed my lips, thought about it for a minute. He was right. Anna would go on and on if I didn't allow her to test her theory. I moved away from the tea and waved my hand towards it. With a rough breath, I said, "Go ahead. But you won't find anything."

Anna picked up a coffee mug and handed it to me. "Have this while I explore."

I marveled at the fact that she didn't feel bad after all the snubbing I did. I took the cup and sipped the coffee instead of the tea I was supposed to.

Anna came to the kettle and poured hot water in a cup. "I am going to add one teaspoon in hot water and then I will add one teaspoon in cold water. With cold water, I mean ice cold water. See the color difference." She went to the fridge to get ice water and poured it in another cup. Then she opened the lid of the tea container. She took out a teaspoon and added it to the hot water. The color turned brown as usual. Then she took out another teaspoon and added it to the cold water. It turned light blue instantly. I stared at the color and then stared more. The color started deepening. It turned cyan.