

## Poppy POV

Embarrassed as hell, I wrapped one arm around my breast and I covered my crotch with the other. Damon chuckled. He came to me and enveloped me in the safety of his arms. He made me walk backwards to a tree and remained in that position covering me entirely so that no one could see me. But I was still uncomfortable, so he circled the tree and made me stand behind it.

"Relax Poppy," he said as he pressed a kiss to my temple. "You can't be afraid of your nudity. We are werewolves. This is part of our nature."

But how could I relax? This was the first time I had shifted and I was nude. Though I had been nude in front of him but never in public. And on top of it, my wolf, Auren, had been sniffing his sex like a sex-starved she-wolf. The mere thought of her poking her nose in between his thighs made my cheeks and ears and neck heated. "I can't walk to our home like this!" I argued.

He tilted his head to the side. "Our home? It has a nice ring to it." He pressed another kiss to my lips. "By the way, I loved your wolf. She is a perfect small one with golden fur. Fit to be my Luna."

My gaze went to his face and for the first time, I saw him as

my mate in his human form. Delightful tingles ran down my body even at the mere thought. My toes curled up. I looked at his pulse point where I felt like sinking my teeth. His chest vibrated with a delicious tingle. "You are my mate."

He nodded. "Moon Goddess has been so kind to me. Had you not rejected Nash, you would have never come to know."

My eyes flooded with tears. "But why didn't you tell me that you were my second chance mate?"

"Poppy," he said in a very light tone. "If I would have said it to you, would you have accepted? You wouldn't have. After your first-time experience with a mate, you would have never ever believed in mates. I could see your reluctance. You know what—I am so happy that I got you as my mate. I wouldn't," he shook his head. "I couldn't imagine anyone other than you. You are so perfect for me."

My tears rolled out. He must have experienced that I was his mate right from the first day and his pain must have been greater than mine when I didn't recognize him as my mate. "Damon," I said, my lips quivering. "Thank you for being so patient with me."

His Adam's apple bobbed and then a second later, his lips seized mine. My hands went to his neck and my fingers fisted in his hair. The attraction, the need to meld in him was greater than my need to breathe. He wedged his thigh in between my thighs and pressed his body weight on me. I

loved it. I loved how every curve of my body fitted into every bulge and dip of his body. The kiss that started as a mere attraction, turned into this crazed need. I wanted him all over me, inside me. And when I felt his erection pressing into my belly, I moaned.

A soft cough from the side broke our kiss. Damon growled menacingly but before he could pounce on the person on the other side, Eliza spoke. "We are here to give Poppy her clothes!"

"Shit!" I was so embarrassed to be caught naked and in Damon's arms out in the open. Damon chuckled. Eliza threw the clothes to him. While he kept me shielded behind the tree trunk, he wore the shorts. Then he made me wear a tank top and shorts.

We walked back to the apartment hand-in-hand, hyper aware of each other. Goddess, this was how mates felt for each other? I silently thanked the Moon Goddess for giving me back my wolf. 'I am never going to leave you now, Poppy,' Auren said from inside.

'I won't let you leave me, Auren,' I replied.

When we reached the apartment, Damon took me to a bath. When I saw myself in the mirror, I laughed with amusement. There were twigs, leaves and grass in my hair. Damon took them all out patiently and together we took a bath. And suddenly it was impossible for me to keep my hands away

from my mate. For the first time, I gave him a bath, ensuring that I reached each and every part of his body. Damon loved all the attention and then some more. His cock was ready for me, seeking my attention. It was pointing straight and so hard at me. His balls were squeezed tight with the need.

I looked at him from beneath my eyelashes as hot water sluiced around me. I grasped his balls with one hand as I curled my fingers at the base of his cock. I opened my mouth and took the whole length in hungrily. Slowly I started moving in and out. In and out. He tipped his head up as he started groaning, feeling tongue all around his cock. I sucked him softly at first and then my pace increased. I tried to put my tongue in his slit and when I did that, his hips bucked. "I can't take it anymore, Poppy!" he said in a strained voice.

He bucked his hips again and his entire length traveled through my mouth right to the back of my throat. As soon as it hit the back of my throat, he bellowed to the ceiling and came inside me.

For a long time, he stood there with his hands resting on the wall in front of him as I licked every last part of his cum, watching me, moaning and muttering curses.

We came downstairs to have dinner with Eliza and Killian. As we sat around the table, Eliza asked, "How are you feeling now, Poppy?"

I knew what she was asking. I gave an affectionate look at Damon and said, "Like I've reborn, like I am anchored, like I have everything I ever wanted in this world."

Damon picked up my hand and kissed it. Suddenly, there was a knock on the door. Killian opened it and Sinclair walked in with shock etched on his face.