

Poppy POV

The thought brought forth memories across my mind. They came like a lightning flash and disappeared, leaving me gasping for air. Black silhouettes of people attacking me, surrounding me in the woods. The pain that flashed in my head was so horrid that I caught Silver's fur tightly as my body was covered with sweat.

He stopped and looked over his shoulder at me.

I was gasping for breath, my mind being so fuzzy that every part of my body spasmed. I let out a cry and leaned over his body. Energy bled out of me and darkness gathered. "I don't want to die..." I said in a voice that even I couldn't hear. With my belly pressed against his back, I fought the darkness that was rapidly surrounding me, but it was a pointless fight. The demons of those people came back. They were stabbing me, hitting me, calling me names. "Don't! Don't!" I tried to ward them off. But they came all at once on me and I surrendered to darkness.

I woke up with a start when I sensed Silver's chest rumbling with a growl. I got up and was surprised to see that we were surrounded by seven werewolves, all of whom had surrounded Silver. Thorns of panic and fear slowly dug inside me as shock descended.

It was still dark. The forest around us remained quiet. All I heard were the low snarls of the wolves around Silver. The sky above us was barely visible with too many tall conifers and ash intertwining towards the sky as if competing for sunlight during the day. A chill

ran down me and I huddled up over Silver. It was his fur that was keeping me warm. Other than that I was in my bra and pajamas that were half torn.

The wolves started circling Silver. He towered above them all and was stronger. He could easily take down every one of them if they attacked him singularly, but this was a pack of seven. If they attacked him together, he was gone.

“What do you want?” I asked, my eyes straining in the night to see them. One of them looked at me with his feral eyes and snarled. Did he know me? I sniffed the air and stilled. They smelled... familiar. “Who are you?” I murmured.

Silver was still very cautious. I was sure that because of me on his back, he wasn't attacking. I didn't know what to do. But I decided that it would be better if I got down. As if understanding me, Silver let out a menacing snarl and then lunged at the wolf in front of me. I shouted as horror ran down my body and grabbed his fur tightly. The other wolf also lunged at Silver. But Silver was airborne. He landed on his paws behind him and shook his torso a little as if asking me to get down. I jumped off him and rushed to a thick tree which I climbed.

In the meanwhile Silver charged at the pack of seven wolves. I watched him attacking them with horror. I didn't know what they wanted, but they were all trying to come to me. And before they could come to me, Silver would attack them. I felt so bad for him. He had just healed and he was again fighting and this time for me. Why?

On a quick thought, I broke a sharp branch off the conifer and peeled off its leaves, turning it into a sort of spear. I positioned myself in a way that I could balance myself and when the next wolf tried to attack Silver, I hurled the branch towards him. The spear entered his flesh and a hair-raising howl later, he was on the ground, his amber eyes glassy. All the other wolves became wary of me.

Silver let out a yelp of victory. My adrenalin charged, I plucked another branch and hurled it towards another one. He too came down. I whooped with joy.

But the remaining became extremely ferocious. They attacked Silver together. I couldn't let Silver be alone. So I tore off another thick branch from the tree and jumped down to face them. As soon as I was on the ground, a wolf charged me. She lunged at me and the moment she was only a meter away from me, I slapped her with the branch on her belly. She cried as she was tossed some five feet away and shifted into her human form. Why was she looking familiar?

"I am going to kill you, Poppy!" she shouted.

She knew me and she wanted to harm me. The thought stunned me. I was frozen to the spot. My eyes wide, I stared at the girl with long dark hair as she rose to her feet and with a scream, leapt at me. She took me to the ground in that instant. She straddled my thighs and shouted, "You should have been dead, whore!"

I was so stunned that I saw her fist coming to my face. Just before it hit me, I stopped it with my hand easily. She brought

another hand and I stopped that too. "Do you know me?" I asked, my voice hoarse.

A crease came in between her forehead. She assessed me and then her lips curled up in an evil smile. "Of course I know you, Poppy." In the next second, she freed her hands and hit me. I was pissed because I wanted to talk to her but she was hitting me. I kicked her back and she yelped as she fell forward. "You bitch!" She yelled. I got and then I got into a fight with her. Her claws came out. She wanted to tear me into pieces. I tackled her by dodging and kicking her chest. From the corner of my vision, I saw Silver taking down on all the wolves bravely.

All at once a loud snarl ripped the forest. Moments later, a massive black wolf came out from the trees. His amber eyes were fixed on me. And he was flanked by a dozen more.

"Damon!" The girl in front of me rasped and froze. She shouted, "Run!"

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