

Chapter 5

Shawn's Pov

This isn't happening. It couldn't be happening. This had to be some sick joke, right?

I had just slammed the door to my oce and poured a glass of whiskey before there was a soft knock at the door. I scented my mom before I heard her voice and she came in after I grunted.

"You want to talk?" she asked and I sighed while collapsing into my chair behind my big oak desk. She wasn't my biological mother but she raised me, she loved me. She was my mother in every way that counted.

I rested my elbows on the desk and held my face in my hands. My wolf was pacing within me, begging me to go back outside. To return to the beautiful white wolf that was sitting on our terrace looking at all of us with a wild and fearful look. But the moment those icy blue eyes met mine, it was like a bond snapped into place. A bond I had only felt one time. A bond that was severed brutally and nearly destroyed me.

My mom sat on the sofa beside my desk and waited patiently for me to speak, for me to open up.

"It's not possible. It shouldn't be possible." I whispered.

"She can't be my mate." I mumbled but she still heard me.

"She's an omega." My mom said more to herself. "It's a miracle that she's survived this long, unclaimed at that."

The thought of someone claiming the little omega made my insides churn with anger and acid. No. I can't think like that. I don't want her! I want my Paisley back.

I growled both at myself and outloud and my mom, not phased by my outburst, rose and walked over to me before sinking to her haunches.

"I know what you're thinking Shawn. But don't make any rash decisions. I know a thing or two about doing that and."

"She's not Paisley!" I interrupted her with a shout. "There's only one wolf I want and she's dead! Dead at the hands of those f****g monsters!"

"Shawn, take a deep breath. Your claws are out." she was calm. How was she so calm?

"The goddess works in mysterious ways. I can't say why Paisley was taken from us, or why there is so much evil in this world. I honestly thought we were done with the worst when the bears were usurped. None of us could have predicted the Plague. None of us could have predicted the attack on alphas and females. But you've been given a second chance son. You are an Alpha. You are the most powerful wolf alive right now and as much as I hate to think this way, I have to. You will need an heir. If you wish to keep our family on the throne, you will need a child and only an Omega can do that for you. It just so happens this omega is your second chance mate. Perhaps Paisley sent her to you. You know that death isn't the end for us. Paisley is still with us." she said, placing her hand on my heart and I shrugged away.

"Don't patronize me. You expect me to believe that the one who was made for me, the other half of my soul sent this one to take her place?"

"Not take her place. But to heal you. To make you whole. Even if Paisley had not passed, you wouldn't have been able to fully mate with her. You wouldn't be able to reproduce. Paisley was a beta Shawn. You need an Omega. Perhaps, the goddess knew this would all happen one day. Perhaps Paisley was never meant to be your forever."

"How dare you!" I growled and she growled back at me, not showing any fear.

"You may be the King, but you're my son and you don't scare me. I was not trying to upset you. I wasn't trying to diminish Paisley's meaning or life. But the facts are facts."

"So you're saying, Paisley was always meant to die? She was supposed to die so that mutt out there could take her place?"

"No..." she started and bowed her head for a bit. "I'm not saying that. I'm saying fate works in mysterious ways. The Goddess doesn't have complete control over fate but she can manipulate it enough for the greater good. She can't change the future but she can throw a pebble that causes a ripple effect. Don't count out this wolf. She's been through enough. We all have. There aren't many of us females left Shawn. Even if you don't want her, someone will. They will come for her. When word gets out that there is an unmated and unclaimed female omega...she's not safe. You have a few options here. You can put your pride aside and accept the goddess's gift instead of insulting her. You can reject her and keep her here for her safety. Perhaps she will nd a male worthy of her here within the pack. Or, you can nd her a suitable home with a worthy alpha who will cherish her and take care of her but you need to make up your mind. The longer she's stuck in limbo the worse it will be. Just remember she may be just as lost and hurt as you are. You could heal each other."

I scoffed but then I noticed the tears in her eyes.

"You're Not the only one who lost someone they loved, son. Just remember that and be gentle with her." she said before standing.

"Mom..." she held up her hand, stopping me and walked out of the oce.

I was such a fool. A selsh asshole was more like it. I sat here complaining about losing my mate when my mom lost two daughters. She lost children. I lost two of my sisters. It changed my mom. It changed my dad. Losing Paisley and then Avelyn and Blaire on top of that was the nail in the con for me. Perhaps I am too damaged for a second chance mate. I let my mom walk away knowing she was upset and downed my whiskey before throwing the glass against the wall and watching the shattered remains fall to the oor.

"f**k!" I shouted and ran my ngers through my blonde hair. The scruff on my jaw scratched my skin as I dragged my hands down my face.

"What were you thinking? I don't want her! You took the one I want!" I said as I looked out the window next to my desk and up at the moon.

I couldn't imagine taking the wolf as a mate. I knew as soon as I looked at her, scented her, that she was my mate. She was small for a werewolf, but omegas are generally small. Her white fur nearly shined like a beacon in the night air. It was plush and long and looked like it would feel like silk under my ngertips.

My heart was broken though and there was no way it could ever be pieced back together to ever love another. Need of an heir or not, it wasn't going to happen. But the thought of her staying within the pack and nding love elsewhere was like a punch to the gut. Could I let her stay here and see her with another male? Could I stomach seeing her love someone else when she was meant to be mine?

The logical choice was to send her somewhere else. Find a suitable pack that was in need of an Omega. But so many were untrustworthy when it came to females and Omegas. The ghts it would cause, the riots and the dangers. It would cause chaos. If word got out that I was harboring an omega, others would come for her. Alphas, rogues, hunters, even Dark Witches. She wasn't safe but she wouldn't be safe anywhere she went.

My mom was right, I was the most powerful wolf alive right now. I was her best shot at being safe. I would keep her safe. It's my duty as a King and as an Alpha. Omegas are precious. Omega females are a rarity.

My wolf was on edge. I could feel him prowling in my mind. Pacing to take over, to take control and get to the female downstairs. It made it worse when I heard a loud yelp followed by howls. Howls of pain.

I burst out of my oce door and made my way towards the cries. It was the female, I just knew it. But what was happening? I left her with James, Jeremy, Caroline and my dad. My mom came running and I saw Julianna with her.

Julianna was dressed in a robe and had her crescent moon mark on her forehead glowing. I raised a brow trying to gure out what was setting her off but she shook her head as she followed us outside.

When I got to the terrace I burst into a sprint towards my father, James and Jeremy. They were standing over the omega while Caroline was off to the side covering her face with her hands. I scented the wolf's pain, her fear. She was writhing on the ground, her body nearly vibrating.

"I SAID SHIFT." my father roared. He didn't look menacing or mad. He looked fearful actually. I had never seen that look on my dad's face except once. Once when he knew he was losing two of his pups.

The little wolf cried out again before she huffed out a breath with a whimper. Her body lay still on the ground and I could hear a whine with each and every breath she took. How could an omega ignore the alpha command? That had to be causing her severe pain.

"What the f**k is wrong with you?" I said pushing into the crowd and shoving my father back. He wasn't looking at me though. He was looking at the little white wolf on the ground with sadness and shock in his eyes.

"You could have f****g killed her!" I shouted at him and he jolted.

"I would never push it that far. She consented to this. She needs to shift. But I suspect this is something Julianna will have to help with. She is trying to shift, trying to follow the alpha command but there is magic blocking her. I can scent it on her. It's not dark magic but it begs the question of who spelled her and why. You know that Shawn. You know I would never hurt her or any female. I... this wolf is special."

"I can help." Julianna's soft voice broke the tense conversation as she knelt next to the omega and ran her ngers through her fur. She looked at Julianna and blinked. I saw her eyes widen for a minute before she tilted her head. She looked around as if noticing all of us standing around.

When her eyes met mine, her ears were pinned back and she tucked her tail between her legs. She was afraid of me.

I stepped closer and knelt down next to her and started purring. An Alphas purr could calm any omega. An Omega craved an alpha purr almost as much as an Alpha longed to nd an Omega to purr for. Her body relaxed and settled into the gravel.

Julianna's hands caressed the wolf's face before the crescent moon marking on her forehead grew brighter and the moons on her hands glowed bright too. She was using magic. Her Light Witch magic. My hair stood on end as if I was in a static storm.

"Impossible..." Julianna whispered before looking at me. She had tears in her eyes before pressing her forehead to the omegas and whispering something so low even I couldn't pick up what was said.

"It's nice to see you again Rory."