## Chapter 146

"She's already been in that forest, and she was unconscious for days!" Zeke shouted. "We're not going through that shit again."

He pulled the food dishes on the table away from Ava when she started looking through them.

"She didn't have a mate last time. And she didn't have me." Mr. Patrick argued.

"You keep talking about yourself like some god! I don't know what the fuck you are, and you want me to trust you with my mate," he growled

"I realize I'm asking a lot," Mr. Patrick said. "I know what your bond means. You've become one in a way many wolves will never experience"

Did Mr. Patrick know about true mate bonds! There were only a few books about this in the library that Mrs. Donovan had given him to read, but his only interest at the time had been how to break the bond. He hadn't had the chance to go and find out more.

Mr. Patrick's eyes widened, indicating he had been in his head, so he growled at the invasive fucker. No boundaries at all!

are quite fatal, the teacher said.

"For your future information, that's not an option anymore. The consequences are quite fatal," the teacher said.

"What's not an option?" Ava asked, pulling the dishes back to her.

"Nothing," he lied, this time taking the dishes and putting them on the counter when he really wanted to throw them in the trash.

"What I mean is that your bond has strengthened her. It has probably strengthened you, too."

Was that why she had been able to command Jared?

"No. She's done it before."

"If you two keep having private conversations, then I don't see why you need us here." Ava said. "I'll just sit here quietly and let you decide my life, shall I?"

Their life. It was their life she was deciding on. He was to have to tell her that what they had was more than a simple mating. Would she have going accepted him if she had known?

He turned back to the counter where he had put the food he had prepared for her and then placed it in front of her with some cutlery. "Oh, am I not being fed then?" Alpha Morgan asked.

He hadn't thought of anyone else.

"My mate was hungry. Help yourself to that stuff."

Alpha Morgan shook his head and stood to make himself a plate before he returned to the table.

"I've been hiding here from the Council for decades. I could have continued to hide, but I like Ava," Mr. Patrick said.

"Yet you're asking her to go into the forest that they own. You said that's why they came here the first time," he argued.

"They already know about her now. There's no time to be cautious. Your bond will protect her mind, but her wolf and I will protect her from the dangers in there."

"So why didn't it protect her last time? I had to save her! We're not doing it."

"Zeke's right," Ava said quietly.

"Ava..."

"I can't do that again. There's so much evil... I never want to step foot in that place again," Ava said. "We can meditate or whatever else, but I'm not going in there again."

"Or we can just leave tomorrow."

He intentionally kept his mind blank solus thoughts would stay private.

"You have the whole school at your disposal here. All you need us do is shift, Ava. If you leave, you will be alone."

Not if he found the people who could hide them first.

Mr. Patrick shook his head and stood.

"They will come after you and your families. They will hunt you down, and they will catch you, no matter where or how you hide. You will be dead before you even realize what's happening. If that's what you want, then so be it, I thought you two were different. Sorry I wasted your time."

And then he left the room.

Second's later, he couldn't even sense him anywhere near them.

He looked at Ava, who had stopped eating even though he knew she was starving.

"I'll get us out. The Council doesn't rule the whole world," he assured her. "There's a whole world out there that we don't even know about."

"That's what Mr. Patrick said before." Ava said. "About a world out there that the Council will never tell us about. But what if we still won't be safe even if we find somewhere to hide?" "I would trust Mr. Patrick much more if he wasn't keeping all these secrets. I feel like he wants to use us to fight the Council, but he doesn't care about you like I do. We'll just be casualties, and he will move on with his life." he said. "Our only choice is to run. You felt how strong those three councilors were. Now imagine that multiplied a hundred times. We don't stand a chance."

"We don't stand a chance whatever we do, kid, Alpha Morgan said. "The only question is, are we going to go down fighting, or are we dying like cowards."

He sat back in his chair and eyed the man who had remained quiet through the whole exchange with Mr. Patrick.

"I trust Mr. Patrick, and if he says he can help, then he can. Alpha Morgan continued. "So, decide whether we die here or away from the academy."

"Don't say it like that, Dad," Ava whispered.

Alpha Morgan wiped his mouth and then pulled his daughter into his arms.

"I don't know what Mr. Patrick can see that I can't," he continued. "But he's right that you need to find your wolf before the Head of Council gets here."

He kissed his daughter and stood.

"I'm going to head back to the guest house," Alpha Morgan said. "I just barely made it out of here in time the last time you two decided to do

that shit in your bedroom earlier. Not something I ever want to hear again."

He saw Ava's cheeks color as her father headed out. One day soon, they would have all the privacy they wanted if he could convince her to leave. But at least they had another night together before shit hit the fan.

At least, he hoped so,

He turned his head towards the door when he sensed Derek and Myles approaching. Something was wrong. That was all they needed! They rushed into the house and straight into the kitchen, with Ava's father behind them

"What happened?" he asked.

"You know how we noticed they had more guards during the mock evaluations! Like they were planning something big?" Derek asked

"Yes?"

"There are truckloads of them that just came through the gates. I've never seen so many in one place," Myles said.

"If you're going to leave, I think you have to do it as soon as possible," Derek added.

He looked at Ava and then her dad. It seemed he was right. Their only choice was where they wanted to die.