

Eight - Ezra

My dad had already left for the alpha's party half an hour earlier but I hung back. Formal parties aren't exactly my thing. I didn't understand why we were even having this party. We normally have a few pack events each year but they are almost always BBQ's in the summer. That way it is warm enough and light enough to have them outside. Everyone hangs around in the garden behind the alpha's mansion, drinking beer and eating almost their own body weight in red meat.

This party was different. It was in the middle of winter and it had a formal dress code, meaning I had to wear a stuffy suit and tie. There would be fancy nger food and champagne. There was no part of this that I was looking forward to. The only redeeming factor was that our alpha didn't throw parties like this often. As far as I can remember, we have only ever had a handful of these events. Our alpha was private, he didn't like having so many people in his house.

I wasn't the only one who thought this party was strange, the whole pack had been talking about this party. They were sure that there was going to be some kind of announcement and they were all trying to work out what it was. If there was anything special planned for today then they were keeping it a well hidden secret, even I didn't know what it was.

Stepping into the alpha's mansion I noticed that inside it looked different from the last time I was here. There were fairy lights and bunting strung up all over the place. This was absolutely a celebration but I still had no idea what of. My friends were standing near the door, I gave them a quick wave and walked away in search of Grayson.

Grayson was standing at the back of the room between his parents. He was wearing a three piece suit, his tie and shirt were in the pack colours. Even his hair was slicked back into a neat ponytail. This was so out of character for Grayson, he was usually a t-shirt and jeans kind of guy. Sometimes at formal events he would wear a shirt and trousers but never a three piece suit. What the hell was going on?

"Where is Molly?" Grayson asked the moment I reached him. His eyes were darting through the crowd, lled with anticipation and excitement.

Shit.

I guess now I knew exactly what this party was all about. Grayson wanted to tell Molly that he was her mate. He was supposed to wait until she gained her wolf but he clearly couldn't wait any longer. This whole party was for Grayson to announce his luna but of course, she wasn't here and I was in deep s**t.

"She didn't come home for Christmas." I replied. I was cringing internally at my own weak response. Grayson's father scowled and took a step towards me.

"She was meant to come back for pack events, that was part of the agreement." He said, there was a hint of growl in alpha Ward's voice which made me feel nervous.

Alpha Ward had been reluctant to let Molly leave the pack to study. He even made her sign a contract which stipulated she would come back for pack events and if requested. I had thought it was ridiculous at the time but that was before I knew she was Grayson's mate.

It was strange, Grayson was holding it together really well considering he had no idea how his mate was. I knew for a fact that I wouldn't be able to show that kind of strength. The second I recognise my mate I am going to be stuck to her side like I am glued to it. I don't care if she thinks I am possessive or over protective, she isn't leaving my sight.

"We could collect tomorrow and bring her here." My dad suggested. Grayson shook his head.

"If you are too pushy she might run and I'm not willing to take that risk." Grayson said.