

## Mate

Lilah POV

Walking out of the forest after a couple of hours I hear excited chatter carrying in the wind from the packhouse.

"He's such a fine young man..."

"A promising Alpha for our pack.."

"Did you hear how well he did at training?..."

Scoffing to myself I continue round the side to the kitchen entrance. Seeing me Luna Maria walks over and thrusts a tray of food into my hands, "take this upstairs to Alpha Lincoln's room, his Luna and him need to keep their energy levels high if they wish to grace us with grand pups" feeling bile rise in my throat at the thought I nod my head and turn towards the stairs. Walking upstairs carefully I mentally brace myself for seeing both him and Shannon, "calm" whispers Sky, knowing it wasn't nerves that were bothering me but the risk of my temper being shown.

Shifting the tray I briskly knock on his door twice waiting to be acknowledged, "come in" calls Shannon's nasally voice.

Opening the door with my elbow I push it open with my back and turn slowly, breathing deeply to calm myself I'm hit with the most tantalising smell of freshly mown grass and pine trees. With my eyes widening in realisation I look up quickly and meet the cold grey gaze of Alpha Lincoln.

"Mate" he exclaims sitting upright in bed. Looking at me he starts moving to stand before a slender hand grabs his arm halting his movements.

"Sorry Linc did I just hear that right?" Shannon asks with a nervous laugh. "That piece of Omega trash is your mate?!"

I freeze taking in the sight in-front of me. The past years training has certainly had an effect on Lincoln, his body is impressively sculpted, his large muscles rippling as he shifts nervously. Taking in his tousled hair and sweaty body I look behind him and see Shannon's bare shoulders showing she's wearing nothing under the covers. Looking up at the ceiling I laugh quietly "oh goddess why".

Looking back at the couple lying in the bed, for the first time since I've known them there is silence. No insults, no abuse, just two sets of eyes never leaving me. "Sky are you okay?" I ask her, "yes Lilah, don't think about me. Do what you have to do" she responds instantly. "You know what can happen now"

Hearing those words I feel confidence flow through my body. Striding up the foot of the bed I throw the tray down at their laps, food splattering up and covering them and the sheets. "Luna Maria asked I bring you some food to ensure you have good health for producing grand-pups" I say whilst openly laughing. Turning my attention to Shannon I ask in an amused tone "I thought you said he was your mate Shannon?" Lincoln whipped his head round to look at Shannon at those words and watch as she open and shuts her mouth in shock at seeing my confidence to out her. Seeing she has nothing to say I continue, "well Shannon, you have nothing to worry about. This man is no mate of mine, it's funny actually how the mood goddess works sometimes. I mean how can my bully and main cause of problems since arriving here possibly be my mate?" Turning I start to wander around the room picking up pictures and placing them down intentionally in the wrong place.

"Lilah I..."

"You what?" I ask.

He stood up wrapping a sheet around himself and takes a few steps towards me. Looking at me I see his inner battle with his wolf as his eyes shine amber. "Hi Knight" I say softly, "I'm sorry your Alpha is such an i\*\*\*t. Just know if it was anyone else there may have been a chance of forgiveness but for him, I will not give him any."

"I know Lilah. You are destined to be great, I wish things had been different and my human had listened to me" the deep gravelly tone of his voice showing his wolf was in control. Stepping forward I cup my hand to his cheek and smile softly "a man who does not deserve a wolf like yourself, I am grateful for what you have kept to yourself for the last 5 years. I hope one day you get your happiness. Now please, let Lincoln back in control, this needs to be done."

Seeing his eyes harden again I step back letting my arm fall to my side ignoring how cold my arm now feels. Meeting his steely gaze I refuse to let my emotions show. "Knight? Is that your wolf?" Shannon asks from behind him, hearing Shannon, "I thought he was private and only the warriors and your parents knew his name. I was told you had to earn that right." She exclaims indignantly. Lincoln turns to speak to her. "Yes it is. Although how she knows that I don't understand."

"Lincoln I will wait in your office for you for the rejection to take place." I say calmly and walk out the door. Shutting it quietly behind me I take a moment and close my eyes. Seeing them together after obviously being so intimate was not what upset me, what upset me was the fact my first mate was a true asshole, one I could never accept out of the respect I have for myself and Sky "we deserve better" Sky says sadly.

Sighing in agreement I head down the hallway and open the large door with the name Alpha Lincoln on it in bold writing. Walking over to the large window I look out over the pack gardens. Deep in thought I didn't hear the door open behind me until I heard a throat being cleared. Turning slowly I once again meet his gaze.

"You made it" I say mockingly, "and here I was thinking you'd take your time and enjoy yourself first. Oh no, that's already happened hasn't it"

"Don't think you have the right to be angry Lilah." His face hardens as he looks at me, "you're no Luna. You barely count as an Omega with no wolf."

I laugh again, "this is amusing Lincoln"

"Alpha Lincoln" he interjects,

"..Lincoln" I continue calmly seeing his eyes darken in anger, "you are no Alpha of mine"

Upon hearing that he snaps. "I AM YOUR ALPHA" he roared trying to intimidate me. "Hmmp" I huff quietly and turn back to looking out the window. "I will wait till the rejection can proceed" I say softly not letting my anger show.