

## Nasty Surprise

### Chapter 1

#### Melina's POV

#### Six Years Later

It's frightening how quickly your day can change. One minute you're looking forward to having dinner with your mate. Next, you're running for your life. I'm thankful that I even found out that my mate was such a piece of s\*\*t. I had been looking forward to nding them my whole life. Dreaming of a wedding where I could claim them as mine in front of all my friends and family. I should have seen the truth staring me in the face. I was so in love, so completely enamored of him. I went along with all his suggestions. Every. Single. One.

I never saw his true intentions. I just lived in my little bubble of happiness, where everything was going as it should. I'd allowed him to charm me. I'd let him explain why we hadn't had my Luna Ceremony. I'd accepted his excuses as to why he couldn't mark me just yet. It was never the right time. I'd swallowed my pride repeatedly, all for a dream. It was all an illusion, and he played his part to absolute perfection.

He had seemed so caring at rst. He was interested in learning everything about me, and I was atttered. I was foolish. I'm thankful for all my training as I sit perched over thirty feet up in this tree. I hate that I didn't bring my cell phone with me. I'm too far away to be able to mindlink anyone for help, and this is life and death. The forest is silent, and I cursed myself for not seeing this sooner.

I'm smarter than this. How could I have allowed this to happen? I held back a sob. I cannot make any noise. My mate, Trevor Byrne, wanted me dead. I knew that a new team was now out here with me. The whole situation was ridiculous. I already knew that Trevor was going to spin it, to try to keep my family from getting involved. That wasn't going to happen. Trevor wasn't the smartest Alpha out there, but I recently discovered he is among the most ruthless.

I was the happiest I can remember six hours ago. I went to nd Trevor. I'd just returned from the pack hospital with the best news. We were going to have a baby. I ran into the pack house's back entrance and took the back stairs. I wanted to tell him the good news. I was moving so fast, I was just a blur. Trevor had been interested in what our pup would be if we were to get pregnant. His pack, Still Waters, was not as welcoming to me as it should have been.

I know they had a recent scare and lost some warriors. But my team ended that threat for them. I wasn't like the vampires that had caused them issues. Yet, with each passing day, the stares became more aggressive. Trevor told me that the pack would warm up to me. I was just paranoid, but they didn't warm up. In fact, it had gotten much worse in the last two weeks. I hope this good news will be the turning point for the pack to accept me, and their Alpha heir.

I knew something was wrong the moment I arrived outside his oce. I could smell Heidi in there with him. I could scent the fact that they were having s\*x. Although my heart doesn't beat, it still broke into a million pieces. I trusted him. I stepped back in shock, as my rst instinct was to pound on the door. Although we were primarily vampires, Maksim and I received our wolf counterparts the day we turned sixteen. Dr. Gurin had been amazed. More like thrilled, as I'd never seen him so excited.

Although he had charted our growth our whole lives, his excitement at having been given such a gift could not be contained at that point. My wolf, Storm, was like a built-in best friend for me. We were one entity, but Storm had her own opinions and strengths. She made me stronger and faster. She also increased my vision and hearing by over double. I could scent danger well before they could get close enough to hurt me. All because of Storm.

My mate was still f\*\*\*\*\*g that b\*\*\*h, and I heard it when they both climaxed. I felt like I was going to be sick. I've asked him at least thirty times in the last two months about Heidi. He always said they used to date, but were just friends now. She was always putting her hands on my mate. She didn't care that it bothered me; she seemed to enjoy that fact. She always portrayed it as being innocent between them. They were best friends, and I had a suspicious mind. She always knew how to dig the knife in deeper with her rude comments.

"Why are you so suspicious? Is it because vampires cheat a lot? How could Trevor or I be willing to do that to you? I think your opinion of me is disgusting," Heidi told me last week. Acting shocked that I would even suggest anything between them.

She even produced tears. Her father, still the acting Beta, had thrown me a disapproving glare across the table. Trevor lost no time leaning over to comfort her, not me, which was another red ag. I'm sickened to hear them both trying to catch their breath as they come back down. This certainly explained his long hours at work, since this was part of what he'd been doing. It all made sense now.

I pushed my anger down and reached into my jeans. I would record them as leverage for him to accept my rejection. I have a great deal of money. My father had been saving up for all of his children. I was just the rst to leave the nest. I only took a portion of it. I had been using my money to invest in his pack. I'm glad I never told him how much I had now. The issue was, in my excitement, I'd left my cell phone at the pack hospital.

"Trevor," Heidi whined. "When are you going to get rid of that disgusting bloodsucker. The whole pack is nervous with her in it. I won't allow her to stay here. You're mine. You always have been. I can't believe that you're cheating on me with her. Goddess only knows what disgusting diseases she has from drinking blood."

"Soon, love, soon," Trevor replied. He sounded so happy. I'm utterly disgusted by his behavior. "I already told you, we need a few more improvements done to the pack. I didn't hear you complaining when you got to go shopping with me the other day. You seemed pleased with your new vehicle and wardrobe. Melina is loaded. She only took a portion of her money with her. Goddess only knows how much she has still in the bank. She put almost two million into the pack's account. Why would I cut her loose when she's so valuable to me and the pack?"

"Well, I don't like that you're still sleeping with her. You belong to me, you promised me, and I know how the bond works. It will only get stronger. How did she even know that you were her mate? It's impossible. Are you sure you're not falling for her?" Heidi complained. I could hear her snuggling closer into my mate. They are both despicable as far as I'm concerned.

"No, I'm not falling for her, Love. You forget, my best friend was killed by one of those bloodsucking monsters. I would never accept one of them as my mate. She's a good lay, and she adores me. But I've got her down to just sleeping with me once a week. She still thinks I care about her," I heard him stop to laugh with her. I felt ice refreeze my broken heart. I refuse to allow him to hurt me again.

"Good, but you'd better gure something out soon. I won't let our pup have any competition. It's easier for a true mate to get pregnant. I don't even know how that b\*\*\*h could, but it seems she is pregnant as well, Trevor. My friend Shelley at the pack hospital called to warn me. They don't know how far along she is yet, but I won't have a bloodsucking bastard take my pup's place in your heart, or this pack. So you better come up with something soon. Or else I'm leaving with your pup. You can stay here with your undead queen, without me," Heidi snapped out.

"I refuse to live without you, Heidi. I'll gure it out. We might not be mates, but I love you. Can't you just be patient? I can't get the other money she has without using this money rst. I'll let her think I still care, while I gure out how to get rid of her. We have to be careful here. Also, I need to warn you. You didn't meet those who came here to end those rogue vampires. They are deadly, and they are good at their jobs. It would be nothing for them to return and wipe us all out. I'll deal with Melina. I will tell her it's not the right time for us to have a child. She always does as I ask. I won't allow that child to be born. The doctor linked me. He is horried at the thought of that monstrosity being allowed to be born, let alone rule the pack. He already gave her abortion pills instead of prenatal vitamins. So, stop worrying. We've been together this whole time; nothing will change that. I've been slipping her wolfbane in her morning coffee. Melina won't nd out about us," Trevor replied condently.

"But what if she does?" Heidi asked again. I started to get worried. Wait. Does she know I'm out here?

"If she does, I'll move the plan up and end her. I just need to nd something that would be believable. I've been asking about her life the whole time she's been here. I know her much better than she thinks I do. I needed to learn how to make it look like a plausible accident. Now, stop worrying about what might happen. I need to have you again before I complete this paperwork," my mate replied. I could hear them kissing again.

I backed slowly away from the door. I don't need to hear this. I already felt like I was going to be sick. My eyes were wet with tears. My mate never wanted me at all. He just used me for my money. I've got to get out of here. I turned to go back the same way I came and walked right into Beta Charles' chest. I never heard him approach. I guess I was so upset at nding out what a piece of crap my mate was, that I wasn't paying attention.

"I knew something was off, Lina," Storm linked me.

"We both did, Storm," I linked back. It was the whole reason I went to the doctor. I never suspected that my mate, who happily brought me my rst cup of coffee each morning, would hurt me like this.

"Come along quietly, Melina. No need to make this harder than it has to be. He will never leave Heidi. Too bad the Goddess hated you enough to bond you two together. You are the bane of our existence. It is blasphemy for our kind to be diluted with another. It's best we deal with you and that thing you're carrying now," Beta Charles stated quietly.