

Betrayed by My Beta Mate #Chapter 11 - Read Betrayed by My Beta Mate Chapter 11

Chapter 11

11 Pack

Lincoln POV

I head to my office to make that call to the Elders. When I reach my office door, Jennifer is waiting. "I need to speak with you, Lincoln, about your visitor." I don't like her tone but I just let it go. I really don't have time for this but I lead her into my office. I don't invite her to sit because I'm hoping this will be short. "What do you need Jennifer?" "Who is that girl you brought here today?" Now the way she asks that pisses me off. "I think I have made it clear that I do not answer to you, so this conversation is over." "This is my pack and as Alpha I will bring anyone I want here." "Lincoln, you have never spoken to me like this and honestly I think you owe me something after all the years we've known each other." "You once thought I was going to be your mate." She steps into me and places her hands on my chest. "I love you Lincoln, why can't you just accept me and forget about some stupid mate bond." "I will be a good mate and Luna."

I take her wrists in my hands and put them at her side. "Jenn, I did think you would be my mate because it was convenient not because I feel the way you feel." "I used to wish I did feel it for you instead of having to wait for my other half." "We have known each other for a very long time and I care for you as a friend and pack member." "I am going to meet my goddess given mate and if you cannot accept that we are going to have a problem with you remaining in the pack." She looks at me with a look like I just slapped her. "How could you say that to me?" "You are going to cast me out of the pack for some b**ch you don't even know." I growl "be very careful Jenn, I will not tolerate your behavior toward me or my mate" "Our history be damned." "Fine, Lincoln, I will leave you and your imaginary mate alone." She walks out of my office without another word.

I sit at my desk hoping what she just said is true, but knowing in my heart, it's not. "She better not give Amelia a hard time, Lincoln", Talon says. "I will make sure she doesn't." I pick up the phone dialing the Elder's number. Elder James picks up on the second ring. "Alpha Lincoln, it's good to hear from you."

"It's good to speak with you also." "I wish I was calling for a better reason but I'm in need of the Elder's help." "I hope nothing has happened to your parents or the pack." "No, everyone is good but thank you for your concern." "This is help for a friend of the pack actually." "It's funny that you called us for help because Elder Thomas was hoping we could meet with you." "We wanted to speak about an issue that you and your pack could help us with." "Absolutely I'm glad to offer my help anytime Elder James." "Good, we will be out tomorrow around noon if that's ok." "I look forward to seeing you both."

I hang up but I can't imagine what they would need my help with. I'm glad that they will get to speak with Amelia in person. I'm sure once they talk to her, they will know she is telling the truth. I link Michael to come to my office about my conversation with Jennifer and the Elder's visit. A few minutes later there's a knock and my door opens but it's not Michael. "Mother to what do I owe this visit?" I get up to hug her before we both take a seat. "Lincoln, I spoke to your father and he told me about your conversation." "Is the young lady I just met in the dining room your mate?" My mother is nothing if not to the point. "I'm not sure mom, I just know she is important to me and Talon." "I love you Lincoln but I see her mark and the pup in her belly." Before I can say anything, she finishes. "Based on the fact you brought her here knowing those two things, I believe she is important to you and this pack" she says with a smile. "You know that your father and I will support you." "If Amelia is your mate we will love her pup as our grandchild." I'm lucky to have such loving and supportive parents.

"I don't expect you to tell me what is going on with Amelia as it's her story to tell, but please be careful for both of you" my mother says. I go around and hug my mother again before she heads back to my father. As she leaves, Michael comes in and takes a seat. "How did everything go when Amelia found out she is staying on your floor?" I chuckle "I think she would have said more had I given her the opportunity." He laughs "I'm sure Lily will help her feel comfortable." I nod "I called you to discuss two things." "We will be meeting with the Elders tomorrow with Amelia at noon." "Good, I'm glad we can help her tell the Elders what that ba**ard did." "I just hope they believe her instead of Atlas" Michael says. "I hope so too." "The other thing I wanted to talk about is Jennifer." He rolls his eyes "I told you that girl was going to be a problem when we were teenagers." "I know you did but I can't go back." "I

really believed she was going to be my mate." "I'm just glad I didn't do anything with her despite her many attempts to get me to." "That was definitely a smart move Lincoln." "What did she do this time?" I tell Michael about my conversation with Jenn in the hallway. "She is going to be a

problem, Lincoln” Michael says. “That would definitely make your life much more complicated when you find your mate.” “Your right about that.” “I know she isn’t happy that Amelia is here and I want Max to keep an eye on her.” “You got it” he says before he leaves my office. I’m going to go check on Amelia and Lily.

Amelia POV

I can’t believe he put me on the Alpha floor. Why wouldn’t he just put me in a regular guest room in the pack house? Lily pulls me into the bedroom. “Stop overthinking everything Amelia.” “You deserve a nice room and who cares if it’s on Lincoln’s floor?” “I know you’re not a wolf Lily, but being on the Alpha floor is a big deal.” She chuckles “I know that Alphas are a big deal to wolves but Lincoln isn’t a regular Alpha.” She is definitely right about that. Most Alphas wouldn’t get involved with the problems of a she- wolf in their own pack, let alone one from another pack. Lincoln is so much like Elias. So kind and protective of others. “Amelia, what are you thinking about”, Lily asks. I haven’t really spoken with Lily about Elias’s death. I don’t think I’ve really processed it completely. “Lincoln reminds me of my brother- in-law Elias.” She sits on the bed and I sit down next to her. “Elias was so kind.” “He was loving and understanding.” “When I met Atlas, Elias was already mated to Freya.” “He thought she walked on water and she acted like she loved him.” “He was busy as many Alphas are but when they were together, he doted on her.” “He treated Atlas as an equal, not as a Beta.” “He loved his pack and family.” “Amelia what happened to Elias that Atlas became Alpha.” “I wasn’t there so I can only tell you what my mother told me, that Freya killed him.” “She killed her own mate.” “How is that possible, Lily?” I can’t help the tears that start to flow. She pulls me into her arms and I let all the emotions I’ve been holding inside come out.

I pull back and wipe the tears from my eyes. “I’m sorry, the pregnancy is just making me really emotional.” She puts her hand on my cheek. “Amelia, you don’t always have to be strong.” “You have

every right to feel everything you’re feeling.” “It’s ok to lean on me and other people.” “You know like hot Alpha kind of people.” My face must be red as a beet. She starts to laugh “Lily, are you kidding me right now.” “No, I’m not and just because I’m a witch and not a wolf doesn’t mean I can’t sense attraction.” I look down at my belly. “Lily, I’m in no position to be checking out Alpha Lincoln.” “Liar, liar, pants on fire” Star says in my head but I ignore her. I change the subject, hoping she’ll let this topic go. “I really love the room, so we don’t need to change much.” “How about a rocking chair and then I think

it's perfect." She smiles and waves her hand in the corner. The most beautiful wood rocking chair appears. I go over and take a seat in it. "Thank you, Lily, I love it." I rock for a minute before my curiosity about the girl from earlier gets the better of me.

"Lily who was that girl you slapped downstairs." "Is she really Lincoln's future mate and Luna?" She smiles "Jenn is just a pain in the a**." "She is definitely not the future, anything, to this pack." "Make no mistake, she wants Lincoln in the worst way but he has made it clear he will only have his fated mate." Star pushes to the surface and growls at Lily's words. I slap my hand over my mouth and I wish the floor would swallow me whole. "Apparently your wolf doesn't like the idea of Jenn trying to claim Lincoln." "Can we just drop it?" "Lily, do you think that Alpha Lincoln would let you stay here until we can go back to our apartments." "I would feel more comfortable if you were here with me." She is just about to say something when a knock sounds on the door. The door opens and Lincoln walks in. He starts to look around until his eyes land on the chair I'm sitting in. "That's a beautiful chair." "I had hoped you would do more decorating to make the room your own so you're comfortable." "I love the room just as it is Alpha Lincoln." He smiles and I just blurt out my question. "Can Lily stay while I'm here?" "Of course, she can, I will have a guest room prepared for you Lily." "Thank you, Lincoln." "Lily" I say hoping to remind her about his title. He laughs "Lily knows that unless we are in a formal setting, she has permission to use my name with no title." "The same goes for you, Amelia."

Lincoln POV

"I'm going to my apartment to grab some of my things and I'll be back", Lily says before she is gone. Amelia looks like she didn't expect us to be alone. "Amelia, I spoke with the Elders and they will be here tomorrow around noon." "Thank you, Lincoln, for everything." "I will never forget how kind you have been to me and my pup." I smile "talk to her about the connection we feel." "Talon now is not the time." "Bullsh*t it's the perfect time." "I don't want to make her uncomfortable so she leaves." "So don't act like a creepier when you say it." "Fine" I say before I look back to Amelia. "Having a conversation with your wolf." "Yes, sorry about that." She smiles "were you two talking about me?" "As a matter a fact you were the topic." "Can I ask you something Amelia?" "Of course, you can Lincoln." "Do you feel anything for me?"

Chapter 12

12 How You Feel

Amelia POV

Did he just really ask me that question? “He most certainly did and I swear to the goddess if you lie, Amelia, I’m going to keep you up all night singing until you tell the truth”, Star says. “You traitor aren’t you scared” I say and she recedes in my mind without answering me. “Now who is talking to their wolf” Lincoln chuckles. “Before I give you my answer can I ask why you’re asking me this question?” He takes my hand and I feel faint tingles that I once felt for Atlas. It isn’t possible my bond isn’t even broken. “Have faith that all things are possible and be honest”, Star whispers. He starts to answer but I raise my hand to stop him. “That’s not fair you asked me a question and I need to stop being afraid because of what Atlas did.” “I need to be honest with you.” I can see his distaste for even Atlas’s name but he stays quiet. “I was twenty when I found out that Atlas was my mate.” “Despite my father forbidding me to accept the bond because of his Beta status I did.” “I wanted my goddess given mate.” “We were happy or so I thought until all this happened.” I take a deep breath and continue. “Before I met Atlas, I found men attractive but I never wanted to be with any of them.” He growls and his eyes darken. I get to my point so he understands why I’m telling him all these things.

“The first time I met you I was more than attracted to you.” “Both Star and I felt something, but couldn’t describe it.” “When you touched my hand, I felt a sensation I’ve never felt.” “It wasn’t exactly the mating tingles, but it was something that made me nervous.” “I couldn’t understand why I would be feeling anything still being mated to that ba**ard Atlas” He smiles and I keep going because if I don’t get this all out I will never have the courage to do this again. “Every time I have spent time with you that feeling, connection has felt stronger.” “When that girl downstairs said she was your future Luna earlier both Star and I felt anger and jealousy.” “I don’t understand how it’s possible but yes I feel a connection to you and your wolf.” The smile on his face is brilliant.

Lincoln POV

As soon as the words leave my mouth, I can feel my heart beat speed up. I want to know the answer, but that doesn’t mean I’m not afraid of what that answer might be. What if she says she doesn’t feel what I feel? “Lincoln, you know in your heart that’s not true, just let her talk”, Talon says. When she

starts to speak, I feel like my heart is going to beat out of my chest. I hate hearing about that ba**ard but knowing that she feels something for me is amazing. "It's my turn" I say squeezing her hand in mine. "Amelia, the moment I met you, Talon and I both knew you were special." "I have never felt a connection to a she-wolf." "I know you still bear his mark and the bond is not completely broken but I know in my heart that you are my mate." I see a single tear run down her face. I reach up, wiping the tear from her cheek with my thumb. She places her hand on her bump. I'm sure thinking about what this means with the pup growing in her belly.

I start to reach my free hand toward her belly while looking in her eyes for permission. She smiles and nods while I place my hand against her. She lays her hands on top of mine. We sit in silence for a few minutes before I feel movement under my hand. "Oh, my goddess was that the pup?" She laughs "yes, he is always kicking me." "We're having a boy" I ask with wonder in my voice. I can see her smile fall at my words. "What's wrong Amelia?" "I know you think we're mates and I believe that your right but it's not fair of me to expect you to be a father to another man's pup." "You're the Alpha of this pack." "They expect you to have your own heir." I bend down on my knees in front of her. "Amelia, look at me." "You are my fated mate and I choose you and our son." Now the tears run down both her cheeks. "Please don't cry, I never want to see you cry." "I just can't believe this is happening." I stand up and help her to her feet. "This is definitely happening." "I plan to make you mine the minute that you are ready." I pull her into me wrapping my arms around her. She comes willingly and wraps her arms around my waist.

We hear someone clear their throat and she stiffens in my arms. I look back to see a smiling Lily. "I'm gone for a minute and you're already working your charms on her Lincoln." I feel Amelia bury her head in my chest. "I'm not going away Amelia", Lily says. Amelia steps out of my arms and stands by my side. The blush on her face is beautiful. I can see she doesn't know what to say, so I save my mate. "I am Amelia's second chance mate." Lily's eyes get big and she starts to jump up and down screaming.

"Oh, my goddess this is amazing." "You two are perfect for each other." She rushes over and wraps Amelia in a hug. As she hugs her, I remember something Amelia said when we were confessing our feelings. "Amelia" she pulls back from Lily. "What were you talking about when you said a woman said she was my future Luna?" Before she can answer, Lily does. "Oh, please let me tell him" she says to Amelia. Amelia nods and Lily turns to me. "Jennifer decided to approach us in the dining room being rude as usual." "She not only said she was your future mate and Luna, but that Amelia was a

filthy rogue wh*re.” I see red and Talon is at the surface. How dare she say such things? Even if Amelia were just a visitor, she has no right to do such a thing.

Before I know what’s happening, Amelia wraps her arms around me and I bury my head in her neck, breathing deep. For the first time, I catch a faint smell of creamsicles. “She is our mate, Lincoln.” “I have no doubt, Talon.” I take a few deep breaths before I pull back with a smile on my face. “You smell like my favorite treat as a kid.” She looks at me with confusion. “You smell like creamsicles.” Her cheeks blush and goddess I love to see her blush. She leans in and breathes deep. She smiles “you smell like rosewood.” “I love that smell.”

Amelia POV

As soon as I see his eyes turn black, I know his wolf is at the surface hearing Lily’s story. I rush over, wrapping my arms around his waist. When we both catch each other’s scent, it’s just one more reason for us both to believe that we are mates. “He is definitely our second chance”, Star says. I still can’t believe he is willing to accept the pup growing in my belly. He is an amazing man and Alpha. “Amelia would it be ok if we spoke with my parents.” I can feel the nerves that I had before our conversation come back tenfold. I can’t imagine his parents are going to be happy he’s mate isn’t pure and is carrying another man’s pup. He steps in front of me, “Lily can you give us a moment alone.” “Of course, Lincoln” she says and she is gone. “Amelia, I can tell your nervous but I have spoken with both my parents about my feelings for you.” “You told them I’m your mate.” “You were that sure?” He smiles “I told you I have no doubt that we are mates.” “My parents have always been supportive and this is no

different.” “Ok, let’s go talk to them.” He smiles and takes my hand leading me down the stairs. As we walk through the pack house, I can hear the wolves chattering. I’m sure talking about their Alpha holding this strange she-wolf’s hand. He squeezes my hand, bringing my focus back to him.

We enter the dining room and his parents are sitting with Lily and Michael at the table. When they notice us, I’m shocked to see smiles on all of their faces. “Mom and dad could you join me and Amelia in my office please.” “Of course”, his mother says, jumping up. His father following behind her. We head out of the dining room and the last person I want to see right now is walking toward us. As soon as she sees my hand in Lincoln’s, her face morphs into anger.

Lincoln POV

When I see Jenn and the look of anger on her face, I step in front of Amelia. Jenn looks into my eyes and I see a mixture of anger and hurt. "You have to be kidding me, Lincoln." "I will only warn you once, Jenn." "I would be very careful of the next words that come out of your mouth." "I think I was perfectly clear earlier about my mate." "Are you saying that the pregnant rogue is your mate." I growl "I warned you." "Michael take her to the cells for insulting the future Luna of the pack." "She is to stay in the cells for two days." "Lincoln you can't do this." "She is marked and pregnant." "You're throwing away the future you could have had." "I can and I just did." "I suggest you take this time in the cells to think about if you can remain a member of this pack." "Amelia is my mate and the pup in her belly is my son." Michael takes her arm and leads her out of my sight. She is yelling the whole way and I hate that Amelia had to listen to her bulls*t. "Amelia please don't let her upset you." "I'm fine" she says, but I'm sure that what happened in the past is playing on her mind. I am nothing like that ba**ard and the only woman I'm ever going to want is Amelia.

We reach my office and my parents take a seat in front of my desk. Amelia takes a seat I placed next to me. "We just wanted to let you know that I am Amelia's second chance mate." "I told Amelia that I will complete the bond when she is ready." I look to Amelia to make sure she is ok. "I'm sure this is not

what you expected for your son." My mother raises her hand and stands coming around the desk. Amelia stands and my mother pulls her into her arms. "Welcome to our family Amelia." "We can't wait to have our first grand pup." "Thank you for accepting me and my pup." I stand next to her "our pup." She wraps her arm around my waist. "I mean our pup" she says smiling at me. She looks to my father. He stands coming over and hugs Amelia. He pulls back laying his hand on her belly. "You keep my grand pup safe." "I will, I promise" she says before I pull her back into my side. I am truly blessed and I will do whatever it takes to make sure my mate and pup stay safe.

Chapter 13

13 Talk

Atlas POV

I haven't heard from Neal or the Elders. I can't believe that she has managed to hide herself from my men this long. I need her back and by my side. If anything happens to her or my pup, I will lose my mind. "What do you think she is going to be like when you finally find her Atlas?" "Do you really think she will be happy to see you" Silas says. "Despite everything that has happened Silas she is our mate and I can make her believe me." "I have always been good to Amelia." "If only you could have kept your d**k out of your sister-in-law you would have been the perfect mate." "Enough Silas, I don't want to hear any more about Freya or what I did." "Well until I have my mates you will hear about it every day human." "You will have a lot of begging to do if we finally get her back where she belongs" Silas says. "I know what I have to do so you need to calm down." "Calm down, I told you not to f**k that b**ch how many times but you just had to hurt Elias." "You better pray she believes you and comes home." I block Silas because I can't listen to him anymore right now.

The phone rings on my desk and I pick it up on the second ring. "Alpha Atlas, it's Elder Thomas." "Elder Thomas, I'm glad to hear from you." "We're you able to speak with Alpha Lincoln?" "That's actually what I'm calling about." "I wanted to let you know that Elder James and I will be meeting with Alpha Lincoln tomorrow." "I really appreciate all your help with this matter Elder Thomas." "I just want Amelia and my pup home safe." "I understand Atlas and I'm hoping our meeting tomorrow will make sure Alpha Lincoln is on board with helping make that happen if Amelia is found in his city."

Neal POV

I walk into the hotel hoping that Amelia will speak to me since I'm alone today. After everything that happened with the warrior the other day, I want her to be comfortable and not afraid. She knows me even if it's not well, and I need her to understand I mean her no harm. She is my Luna and I would lay

my life down to protect her. I walk past the desk toward the restaurant she was working in. "Excuse me", I hear a male voice from behind me. I turn to see the man that was here with her the other day. He's human, so I'm sure he isn't going to be too big of a problem. When he gets close enough to me he whispers so only I can hear him. "I believe Amelia was clear that she didn't want to see any of you, so I suggest you leave her alone." "Sir, I understand you are trying to protect Amelia but I assure you I am no threat to her." "I just want to speak with her." He steps closer "I know what you are." His words take me off balance until I notice a scent that wasn't there when I walked in.

Our eyes meet “you’re not human, you’re a warlock.” “I am and Amelia is under our protection.”

What the hell is happening right now? How does a warlock become involved in wolf business? “I’m sure you don’t want a war amongst our kinds and that is exactly what will happen if you keep Luna Amelia away from my Alpha.”

“Maybe you should be wondering why Amelia, who is pregnant with your so-called Alpha’s pup would run from your pack and him?” “I understand what she thinks happened but I need her to listen to the truth.” He laughs “maybe you should find out the truth before you try to tell her what it is.” I growl low “you know nothing about what truly happened in our pack warlock.” “I really don’t care what your Alpha says happened I know who I believe.” “I will speak to Amelia and if she wants to meet with you I will let you know.” “Make no mistake if she doesn’t want to speak to you, it will not be happening.” I don’t have a choice in this moment, I just have to hope that Amelia will agree. I give him my number and I say a prayer to the goddess she will at least hear me out. I head out of the hotel. As I walk toward the woods, the warlock’s words play over in my mind about knowing the truth. Everything that happened the day Elias died still haunts me. “Neal, we will find the truth no matter what it takes”, Jasper says. I strip placing my clothes and phone in my bag. We shift and Jasper takes the bag in his mouth before he takes off toward the cottage.

Lincoln POV

After we finish speaking to my parents, I want to talk to Amelia about the meeting tomorrow. I’m sure she is nervous and I want to reassure her that I will never let her go back to him, regardless of the

Elder’s decision. She is mine. My cell phone rings in my pocket but I ignore it. It keeps ringing and I pull it out, seeing John’s name on the screen. I silence it. I can call him back when we are done speaking. She smiles, “Lincoln, answer your phone I’m not going anywhere.” I put the phone to my ear “what’s going on John?” “The ranked wolf from the other day came by the hotel looking for Amelia twenty minutes ago.” I growl and Amelia looks at me with concern on her face. “What the hell did he want?” “He wants to speak with her.” “That is never happening.” Talon is growling in my mind. “Lincoln, I want to protect Amelia too.” “This wolf might be able to help her if she makes him understand the truth.” “He seemed genuine and I believe that he has been misled by the Alpha.” I know he’s right but that doesn’t mean I want this wolf anywhere near my mate. “I will speak with Amelia and call you back” I say before I hang up.

Amelia takes my hand “what’s wrong?” “One of the wolves that came to see you in the hotel showed up again today.” I can see the concern on her face. “Neal” she says, and I hate that I have to even entertain her speaking with him. “He wants to speak with you.” I can see the turmoil on her face. “What did John say that made you change your mind about me speaking to him?” I smile that she is so smart and strong. “He thinks that if you can make Neal understand that you know what Atlas did first hand, he could help us prove that he betrayed you.” “What do you think?” “I think no matter what happens I’m never letting you go back to him.” “You are mine, my mate.” She smiles “do you think I should speak to him?” “What do you know of Neal?” “I met him a few times and we spoke briefly but Elias spoke highly of him.” “He always said that if Atlas wasn’t his brother and Beta, that he would have chosen Neal.” “I think if you want to speak with him, I will support that.” “I will have John bring him to the pack and he will speak with us here.” “Thank you, Lincoln for supporting and protecting us” she says placing her hand on her bump. I take the phone back out of my pocket and call John. “Call the wolf and bring him to the pack to speak with us.” “Yes Lincoln”, he says and I put the phone back in my pocket.”

Amelia POV

“Amelia, are you sure we should meet with him?” “If he doesn’t believe us, he will tell Atlas we are in the Nightfire pack” Star says. She’s right he knows I’m in the city but he has not idea that I’m actually in the pack. “Lincoln, are you sure you should bring him here?” “If I can’t make Neal believe I’m telling the truth he will tell Atlas where I am.” “Your pack will be at risk and I” he stops me with a kiss. When he pulls back, he smiles at me. “This is our pack and I don’t care if he knows you are here.” “The Elders will know tomorrow and this pack will defend its Luna.” I lean in and kiss him like it’s the most natural thing. He deepens the kiss and the tingles are even stronger than before. I still can’t believe the goddess has blessed me with a second chance. He pulls back when we are both breathless. He places his forehead against mine. “Thank you for being honest when I asked you about your feelings for me.” “You can thank Star, she threatened to keep me awake with her awful singing if I didn’t tell the truth.” He bursts into laughter and Star growls in my head. “Seriously I’m glad I was brave because I want to spend to the rest of my life loving you raising and raising our pups.”

An hour later, we are sitting in Lincoln’s office when he gets a link from Michael that Neal has arrived with John. I knew I would be nervous but my stomach is in knots. A few minutes later a knock sounds on the door and Michael walks in followed by Neal. His eyes land on me sitting next to Lincoln.

He takes my hand in his. "You can have a seat, Neal", Lincoln says. I can feel his alpha aura and Neal does as he says. He is focused on my hand in Lincoln's. "Neal, you came to talk to me, so please do" I say. "Luna, Alpha Atlas is looking for you and wants me to bring you home." "I am no Luna to the Darkmoon Pack and it will never be my home again, Neal." "I'm sorry for the loss of your Alpha." "Elias was a good man and he meant a lot to me." "Atlas is no longer my mate and therefore I am not your Luna." "Amelia, I realize that Freya told you things that paint Alpha Atlas in a bad light." I can't help myself I laugh. "Is that what he told you that Freya lied to me." "He is the f**king liar." Neal looks at me with shock. "Freya never spoke to me about what she was doing with my mate." "I heard them in the office and felt it everyday of my pregnancy." "So don't you dare come here and tell me about what a wonderful mate Atlas was." I take some deep breaths. Lincoln rubs circles on my hand calming my

rage. "Are you alright love?" "I will be" I answer before I turn back to look Neal in the eyes. "I am the future Luna of the Nightfire Pack."

Chapter 14

14 Belief

Unknown POV

I grab my cheek after he knocks me to the ground. I still can't believe this is my life now. I've been betrayed by my own beloved, but I wouldn't change what I did. He kicks me bringing me out of my thoughts. "You did this to yourself." "I stopped feeling bad long ago for punishing you." I stay silent because I won't give him the satisfaction of showing him tears or begging for him to stop. He is an unfeeling monster who has no problem causing me pain. "Nothing to say love?" I look at him with disgust at his pet name. "Still such spirit after all this time." "I bet you wish you could use your powers but that won't be happening." "Where did she go?" "You took what I was supposed to have and now you will be punished until I get what I'm owed." I look up and look into his eyes "even if I knew where she was I wouldn't tell you." I feel his fist connect with my cheek and the darkness take me under. I say a prayer to the goddess in that moment that he never finds her.

Amelia POV

I probably should have kept that detail to myself, but I am nothing to the Darkmoon pack. It's too late now I've said it and honestly it felt right acknowledging what I am to Lincoln and this pack. "I'm confused Amelia, what do you mean", Neal asks. "How can you take a chosen mate while you're still mated to Alpha Atlas?" Lincoln growls and I lay my hand on his arm reassuring him I can handle this. "I think I have made it clear that I am nothing to that cheating ba**ard." "Lincoln is not a chosen mate." Now he looks more confused. "Apparently the goddess is as angry with Atlas as I am because she has given me a second chance with a fated mate." "I can't believe this, how is that possible" Neal says with a hurt look on his face. I know he is loyal to the pack and his Alpha, but based on what Elias said of him he is a man of honor. "I can't believe he would betray you."

"Neal, I know how hard it is to believe that Atlas would do this, but I promise you that I heard them together in his office." "I tried to get away without them knowing I was there but they heard me in the hallway." "They came out acting like nothing happened." "Both acting like they were so worried about me and my pup." "Star and I hated ourselves for not realizing the pain we we had every day was that ba**ard scr*wing Freya over and over again." "Then he would come back to me and act like he loved me and our pup after he was finished with her." "He betrayed his own brother, a man who treated him like an equal not a Beta." "So, I know you don't want to believe all this but it's the truth." "So, to answer your question, no I won't go back to him or that pack." "As soon as the bond is completely broken, I will be formally accepting Lincoln." "He is my mate and my pup's father." Lincoln wraps his arm around my shoulder pulling me close to him.

I watch Neal look at Lincoln and then John. "Neal the Elders will be coming tomorrow and I will be telling them the same thing I just told you." "What if they don't believe you Amelia?" "What if they give you no choice?" Again, Lincoln growls but I don't need anyone to defend me in this moment. "I will tell them I am not a possession of the Darkmoon Alpha and I will not go back to Atlas." "I will not be forced to stay mated to a monster who doesn't honor the mate bond." "I'm sorry Amelia, I had no idea what he had done to you." "I never would have come here to take you back to him." I smile, Elias always said that Neal was a man of honor and loyalty." He was right. "Neal, you came here because you believed your Alpha but you listened to me instead of just following orders blindly." "That makes you a honorable man, not just a mindless warrior of your Alpha." "He is not my Alpha after what he has done to you." "What can I do to help you, Amelia?"

Lincoln POV

As I listen to Amelia speak to Neal, I couldn't be prouder. My mate is amazing and strong. She could have broken after everything that happened to her, but instead she sits here like the Luna she is. I listen to her telling Neal exactly what happened to her at the hands of his so-called Alpha. The anger I feel even though I know this story, is resonating through my body. Talon is ready to run to that pack and

end this, but I remind him we need to do this the right way. I worried that this wolf wouldn't go against his Alpha. I can see that he definitely cares about what is right, not some misguided loyalty to a man that doesn't deserve it. When he asks what he can do to help Amelia, I couldn't be more grateful. "John, can you get Lily to join us so we can discuss a plan for Neal to help us." "Yes Alpha", John says and leaves the room.

Ten minutes later he returns, followed by Lily. When she steps into the office, her eyes land on Neal and she stops walking. A look I can't decipher crosses her face but it's gone just as quickly. "Lily, are you alright?" "Yes Alpha, John said you wanted to see me." "Lily, this is Neal, a warrior from the Darkmoon pack, I believe you met him at the hotel." "Why is he here?" "Lily" John says with disappointment in his voice. "It's ok I understand she is worried for Amelia" Neal says. He stands walking over to her. He sticks out his hand to properly introduce himself to Lily. She turns and rushes out of the room. "I'm sorry Neal, I don't know what's going on with her", John says, and leaves my office. Neal comes back and sits down in front of us. "I'm going to go check on Lily with John", Amelia says.

Lily POV

I'm downstairs just grabbing something to eat. I was off today and I'm enjoying being able to spend time with Amelia. We are supposed to go for a walk tomorrow before her meeting with the Elders. John walks into the dining room and straight toward me. "Lily, Lincoln wants you to come to the office." "What's wrong, is Amelia, ok?" "Yes, she is absolutely fine." "One of the warriors from the other day is here speaking to her and Lincoln." I don't even wait for him to finish speaking and I take off toward the office. What the hell would Lincoln let a damn Darkmoon warrior near Amelia for? John grabs my arm just as I reach the door. "What the hell is wrong with you?" "Why is he here and why wasn't I told before now?" "Lily, we are guests here in this pack, so I suggest you act as such." "Be respectful or I'll go back in by myself." "You don't question Lincoln's actions." I take a deep breath and follow John in. As soon as I see him sitting in the chair, I stop walking. I can't do this, I can't be in this room with him. When he

gets up walking toward me, I lose it. I rush out of the office and head toward the room I've been staying in. Once I'm inside, I sit on the floor in front of the door.

A knock sounds on the door. "Lily, open up and talk to me." "What the hell is going on" John says from the hallway. "John, please just leave me alone right now." "I need some space." "Fine, but we are going to talk about this later." I hear his footsteps becoming distant and I thank the goddess he listened. A few minutes later, a knock on the door scares me. "Lily, it's Amelia, please let me in." I open the door and she walks in, wrapping me in a hug. "Lily, what happened in there?" I pull back but I'm not ready to talk about this yet. I don't want to lie to Amelia, but I know if I don't she will push until I tell her. "I just don't want him around you and your pup." "I know your worried about me and bean but honestly Neal is nothing like Atlas." "He wants to help me because he is a good person." I feel my heart clench in my chest at her words. "What if he is lying Amelia?" "You once thought Atlas was a good person." I see hurt flash on her face and I feel like a total b**ch. "I'm sorry I didn't mean that." She places my hand her hand on my cheek. "I know you just said that because you're worried about me." "Everyone isn't like that ba**ard and I have to believe there are still good wolves in our world." "Besides I'm here and protected." "Any plan we come up with will not involve me leaving this pack." She laughs "you can be sure Lincoln wouldn't agree to that." I smile "no he wouldn't." "Ok I'm with you, let's go come up with a plan."

Chapter 15

15 Unexpected Mate

Amelia POV

We walk back to the office and I feel like Lily isn't telling me everything. I'm sure she is definitely worried about me and my pup but there is something else going on. I'll give her some time, but I don't want secrets between us. I meant what I said to her about being like sisters. We reach the office and I sit on the couch. Lily comes and sits next to me so we are across from Neal. Lincoln looks at her with confusion but I just shake my head at him to let her stay. It's like she is uncomfortable around Neal, but he is a good guy. It doesn't make any sense. Lincoln lets it go and takes the seat next to Neal. John is still standing. "Neal, I'm sorry for rushing out earlier" Lily says. "Thank you for believing Amelia and being willing to help her." "There is no need to

thank me for doing the right thing, I assure you, Lily.” “Had I known what was happening to Amelia when it was actually happening, I would have made sure that Elias and I beat his a**.”

“I’m sorry, Neal, I forgot to tell you that earlier.” “Elias did know before I left.” “I couldn’t keep that from him.” “I went to his office after I heard them and told Elias everything.” Neal’s face contorts into a look of anger. “You told Elias that his mate was f**king his brother before you left the pack.” I nod not understanding his anger. I couldn’t keep that from Elias. “I’m sorry Neal, he had the right to know what was happening.” “You misunderstand why I’m so upset.” “I would never expect you to keep it from Elias.” “I’m upset because if Elias knew that Freya was being unfaithful, how did she get close enough to stab him that day.” “I don’t know about you but if my mate betrayed me with my brother, I wouldn’t be hugging her.” “What are you saying Neal?” “I’m saying something about Elias’s death doesn’t make sense.” “It never did but I couldn’t put my finger on it.” The minute I realize what he is saying I feel sick. “He couldn’t, that can’t be true.” I rush out of the room to the nearest bathroom. As soon as I make it to the bathroom I puke. I wretch until there is nothing left in my stomach. I feel a hand rubbing circles on my back and holding my hair. I expect it to be Lily, but when I stand it’s Lincoln. “I’m sorry, I didn’t really

want you to see me puking.” He wets a paper towel and wipes my face. “You are my mate and I will hold your hair while you puke every time.” “We will care for each other and sometimes it won’t be pretty.” “Talk to me love?” “How could I not know what a monster I was mated to Lincoln?” He pulls me into his arms.

“He only allowed you to see the mask he wore love.” “There was no way for you to know who he truly was when he was hiding it from you and your pack.” “He killed his own brother.” “That means he probably killed Freya too.” The tears flow freely down my cheeks. He holds me in silence for a few minutes before I finally compose myself. I pull back and he wipes the tears from my cheeks. “We are going to make him pay for all he has done Amelia, I promise you.” We head back to the office and Lily rushes over to me. “Are you alright?” “Not really but I will be.” She hugs me before we sit back down. “I’m sorry Amelia I didn’t mean to upset you” Neal says. “Elias was not only my Alpha but he was my friend.” “It’s not your fault I’m upset Neal.” “I just didn’t realize what a monster I was mated to.”

Neal POV

"I know you said your meeting with the Elders tomorrow." "I would like to be here with you to speak to the elders about my suspicions surrounding Elias's death." I can see the shock on Amelia's face. "Neal, you are jeopardizing your own life." "If Atlas could kill his own brother, he will have no problem killing you if he finds out you betrayed him." "I cannot return to that pack Amelia knowing what I know." "I'm not a very good actor." I smile "I would rather be a rogue or dead before I stay in a pack run by that ba**ard." "No" Lily says before she stands. "No, I can't meet with the Elders" I say as a question to her. "No, you can't die" Lily says. It's sweet she cares if something happens to me. She is beautiful and kind even if she is acting strange. "She is not our mate, so don't even think about it", Jasper says in my head. "Give it a rest, I can think a woman is pretty without betraying our mate." I block him and return to our conversation. "I'll be fine Lily but I appreciate your concern." She sits back down and I turn to Lincoln and repeat my question. "Absolutely you can meet with the Elders with us." "What will you tell

Atlas when he calls" Amelia asks. "I will not be answering Atlas again." "I have already sent the other warriors back to the pack after the incident in the hotel."

"Alpha Lincoln, I need to break my allegiance to the pack." "I would like to do that before we meet with the Elders tomorrow." "Of course, I can have Michael drive you to the pack border so you can say the words to break your bond." "That's not necessary I can take him" John says. "I'm coming too" Lily says. "That isn't really necessary." "I can shift and run to the border." "Then I can return to the cabin until tomorrow." "That isn't necessary Neal, we have a cabin you can use in the pack" Lincoln says. "Alpha, I don't expect you to allow me to stay in your pack." "I'm not allowing you to stay in my pack." "I'm inviting you to join my pack Neal once you break your bond to the Darkmoon pack." "I'm not trying to sound ungrateful but why would you do that for me?" "That's what an Alpha does Neal." "You are an honorable wolf and you don't deserve to be a rogue for doing the right thing." "Thank you, Alpha Lincoln, I really appreciate your kindness." "I will gladly accept you invitation."

I go to stand near John and Lily joins us. "Neal picture your pack border and I will teleport you just outside it." I nod and John places his hand on my shoulder. I ready myself as I have never been teleported before. Lily places her hand on my arm while I'm looking at John. I whip my head in her direction and my eyes land on hers when I feel tingles on the spot she touches. She immediately raises her hand, but before I can say anything, John and I are at the border. "Jasper, what the hell was that." "I don't know but we need to talk to her." "Neal, are you alright." "Yes, I'm fine." I shake it off because we are here now and I need to get this over with. I turn to the pack. "I, Neal Connor

Martin, break all ties with the Darkmoon pack.” “I leave behind its secrets and break my bond with Alpha Atlas Canfield.” I immediately feel the bond break. Jasper whimpers in my mind at the loss of his pack. “I don’t think we should hang around, are you ready” John asks. “Yes, I’m ready but I have a question before we go back to the Nightfire Pack.” He waits for me to ask my question. “Is Lily a witch?” “Yes, she is why are you asking that.” “I need to speak with her before I answer that question.” He looks at me with confusion. “It’s nothing bad I promise you but I need to speak with Lily.” He nods before he places his hand on my shoulder again.

We appear back in Lincoln’s office. “Where is she?” Amelia looks at me confused before she realizes who I meant. “She said she needed to go for a walk alone.” “What’s wrong, Neal?” “I just need to speak with her.” I can see the moment she realizes what’s happening. “How could that be you would have known?” I look at John and Lincoln before I answer. “I believe she is masking her scent.” The smile that breaks out on Amelia’s face is brilliant. “I’m sure she will be back soon.” “She probably needed a moment.” “I’m sorry Amelia but you know Jasper and I can’t wait.” “We need to see her now.” “I know what you’re saying Neal but Lily has been through a lot so you’re going to need to be patient” Lincoln says. I pray no one has hurt her because I’m going to lose my mind. “Can someone please tell me what the hell is going on”, John says. I laugh “I guess it’s too late to talk to her first.” “John, I believe that Lily is my mate.” “That’s why she has been acting so weird”, John says. “She knew that day in the hotel but she said nothing.” He reaches out his hand shaking mine. “Welcome to our family.” “Let’s hope she agrees but thank you.” “I know Lily she may be scared but finding her mate is all she ever wanted.” “See our mate wants us.” “Calm down Jasper we need to give her time.” “I want her as much as you do.” “John why don’t you show Neal to the cabin.” I nod and follow John. I say a prayer to the goddess that we can talk to her soon.

Lily POV

I return to the room I’m staying in and close the door behind me. “I’ve been waiting for you”, the voice scares the hell out of me. “Amelia what the f**k, you scared the sh*t out of me.” “What’s wrong that you’re waiting for me?” “Are John and Neal alright?” She smiles “your cousin and mate are just fine.” “What did you just say?” “You heard me, why didn’t you tell me?” “I was going to Amelia but I was trying to wrap my own mind around that he’s a wolf?” She looks disappointed and I realize she thinks I care that he is a wolf. “Amelia, I don’t care that Neal’s a wolf but I’m sure he cares what I am.” “I know how most wolves feel about my kind.” She gets up and comes to stand in front of

me. She puts her hands on my shoulders. "I think you need to speak to your mate before you make any assumptions about how

he feels." "Why what did he say?" "Oh no you're going to talk to him." "I'm not saying anything." I pout but she just hugs me before she leaves my room.

The Next Day

Lincoln POV

We are waiting in my office when I get the link from the patrol guard that the Elders have arrived. Michael, Neal, Amelia, and myself are in the office. The elders are good wolves but I have no idea how they would act if I included a witch and warlock in our meeting, so John and Lily aren't here with us. A few minutes later, there is a knock and the guard leads Elder James and Thomas into my office. They stop dead when they see Amelia and Neal. "What is going on here", Elder Thomas says and he doesn't look happy.