

Our New Home

Chapter 20

Maksin's POV

I watched Isabel's face as Cara created our temporary home. Isabel was amazed. I'm still impressed with what Cara can do myself. Alexei stood proudly next to her as she managed to create a house right in front of us. I had told her to make it just one bedroom, as it would be just us staying here. It's right next to my parents' house. If Melina needs me, I can be there quickly.

I doubt Melina would reach out to me. My sister has always hidden her emotions away, especially from our parents. It was rare to see how she was feeling until she met her mate. I get it now, more than I did before. I can't resist the pull myself. I can't wait to claim Isabel as mine. I'm not going to hide her mark. I'm going to place it on her shoulder near her neck, just like the wolves do. I wanted everyone to know she's mine.

I may be a level-headed guy, but if you hurt my loved ones: my mate, my family, my fellow team members. I'm willing to ensure that anyone who dares hurt them learns a hard lesson. Whether they have warranted death or just a good beating, I'll base my actions on their actions. I wanted to beat Trevor within an inch of his life. He'd earned it, so had that nasty piece of work by his side. I thought he had better taste than to nd her acceptable, but Melina was right. He deserves to keep her as his mate. That is the real punishment.

Alpha Allen has also made the list now. From the sounds of it, someone on the Council is leaking information to the Darkness Pack. I need to see what we can do to investigate this, without them knowing. What Isabel told us about a Council Member being there when her friend and mentor, Maddie, was killed. That's not the norm.

The Council brings people in. They hold them until their trial is held. Then either they release them, or carry out their sentence. They don't murder people in the middle of the forest. They also don't just stand by and allow innocent people to be killed in front of them. They had no idea Isabel was out there, or whoever it was, would have hunted her down to ensure she couldn't tell anyone else what they'd done.

Right now, she's safe because she's here in Black Adder with us. I hope the two men there to represent the High Council hadn't recognized her. They had their backs towards us most of the time, silently letting everyone know whose side they stood on. Isabel and I were looking at each other when we left, and I didn't notice either of them watching us. But my father saw it play out in her memories. Isabel doesn't know it yet, but if she saw the Council Member, Dad already knows who it is now. I won't have my mate live the rest of her life in fear. Not when I can prevent that from happening. He made my mate live in fear for six years. I won't make their death pleasant.

Cara motioned towards the door for Isabel to enter. When we did, Isabel took a minute to look around. She was stunned at how nice this home was, especially considering it wasn't there just two minutes ago. It wasn't overly large, but it was perfect for us. Eight hundred square feet for the rst oor, which had a living area, a kitchen with an island, and a half bath. Cara led us upstairs to show us our room, and Isabel covered her mouth with both hands.

Cara had outdone herself today. It was a beautiful room. The walls featured soothing colors, including tan, with blues and greens incorporated into the décor. There was an accent wall with the same blues and greens behind our bed. You could see through to the bathroom, which had two doors leading into it, where a large tub sat. It was big enough for both of us to use at the same time, and had plenty of room left over. I kept seeing Isabel's eyes return to it over and over again. I wanted her to be happy, but I hope she can wait until tomorrow or later tonight for her bath.

Cara had thought of everything, as the closet was full of clothes for us. She also had products on both the sink, shower, and bath. I was so happy at how thoughtful and welcoming she was to my mate. I know some families have given new mates a hard time. However, my family went a long time without having mates to call their own. So we treasured our bonus family members. I may not have waited centuries for my mate, but now that she is mine, I will never let her go. She is my queen, and I can't wait to worship at her feet and work my way up.

Alexei understood the message and said, "Let's go home, love. I'm sure the children miss us. I know that Maksim and Isabel would like to get cleaned up after today's adventures."

Cara gave a light blush as she knew what he was getting at. Isabel did as well, and she looked so cute. Yes, they needed to leave now. I want to claim my mate.

Cara nodded and said, "I put a ngerprint scan on the door. When you leave here in the morning, just put your thumb on it, and it will beep when it's done. I will add everyone else later. It will only allow those who scan to enter. I loaded your fridge up, too, just in case. I will make the pendant tonight and give it to you in the morning."

We walked them to the door, and the moment it shut. I could tell that Isabel was nervous about being alone with me. It is natural for us to want to be together, but I didn't want her to feel like she had to right now. I headed to the fridge and noticed that Cara had gone over and above. I grabbed us both a drink and teased her as I handed it off.

"Do you want to go take a shower? Or we can both take a shower," I said with a wink. Isabel's face was red. She was tongue-tied and didn't know what to say back to me.

"Love, I was just kidding with you. I want to mark you in the worst way. I don't want you to get away, and the need to make you mine is overwhelming. But even if all we do is mark each other, I'm content. I won't pressure you to go any further than that," I told her.

"I want you to mark me, Maksim. I want you to claim me fully. I just wanted it to happen naturally between us. This has been a crazy day for me. Saving Melina and killing those four warriors. I wish I could have skipped the part where I got shot; that hurt. But I wouldn't change anything because it led me to you. It's been a shocking day, going from being alone to having a mate and a family. I just watched your Aunt conjure up a house right in front of me. That was unbelievable. One that is nicer than I have ever been in, other than the packhouse at the Darkness pack. I'm still a little stunned at all the changes that have taken place, but I want to be yours," Isabel told me.

"I will always love and protect you, Isabel. I loved you from the moment I knew you were my mate. I had an interest in you, even before I knew we were mates. I was trying to gure out what your interest in my sister was. I promise that I won't let Alpha Allen nd you. You're mine, and I'll ght to the death to protect you from anyone who wants to do you harm," I told her as I stepped up to her. I placed my hands on her shoulders and rubbed her cheeks with my thumbs. I wanted her to know that no matter what, I would be there for her.

Isabel searched my eyes. I have no idea what she was looking for, but I could tell that he believed me. She melted into my arms and held me against her. "We can both take a shower," she answered.

She gave a small shriek as I instantly put her over my shoulder in a reman's carry. I shot up the stairs with her in my arms as I didn't want to give her time to change her mind. Her laughter lled the bedroom as I carried her right to the bathroom.

I saw her eyeball the tub again and said, "You can try it out in the morning, I promise, Love."

I pulled my shirt over my head and tossed it in the hamper, well, near the hamper. In my excitement, I missed. I'll deal with it later. I immediately took off my pants, too. I have waited my whole life for this moment. I had heard horror stories from both my father and my uncle. Even from my mother. All cautionary tales about waiting, as they all had problems before. My mother's story was a little different than theirs. She had been the problem for Alpha Jaxon's father, the former Alpha, Brandon. But they had forgiven her and welcomed her into Black Adder, literally saving her life.

It wasn't much of a problem for me as none of the she-wolves in the pack ever approached me. They would check me out, but they couldn't get past the fact that I was a vampire. Our main bullies, Fredrick and Robert, would have died before they would have let that happen. They made sure that Melina and I were excluded from any activity they could keep us out of. They hated the fact that we could beat them in almost anything. Now that I'm thinking of them, I have to get my mate marked. Once they saw her, they would want her. That was not going to happen. My mate is beautiful, but they'd better think very carefully before approaching her.

My wolf, Zion, growled out at the thought of either of them touching our mate. I hadn't realized that I'd frozen in place at just the idea of it. Zion was as upset as I was. No one had better lay a hand on Isabel again, for any reason. I felt Isabel's hand on my shoulder as I was facing away from her. She could tell that I was upset, and when I didn't calm down fast enough, she pressed herself against my back. I could feel her breasts pressing into me as she wrapped her hands around my waist.

I could barely hold back my groan. I was already hard, but with her hands so close to my c**k I'd grown even harder. She hasn't even really touched me, and look at what she does to me.

I turned to face her, and she kept her eyes on mine. It's cute how shy she is. "I love you, Isabel. I've never loved anyone as much as I love you. Even Zion, my wolf, got jealous at the thought of other males being around you. I want you so bad, but I can wait for you. We can shower and then mark each other. As long as you're next to me each night, I can wait as long as you need me to."

"We don't have to wait, Maksim. Let's complete the mating process tonight," Isabel softly agreed.