

Betrayed by My Beta Mate

Chapter 6

6 Time to Tell

Michael POV

Max and I arrive at the diner. I had to tell Max why we were coming but I didn't give him all the details. We step out of the car and Max turns to me. "Why is Lincoln waiting to see what's happening with this she-wolf?" "Even in the human city, Lincoln makes sure wolves know that no issues will be tolerated by our pack." "He hasn't even spoke with this woman yet." "Now were here intervening with more wolves that don't belong here." "Last time I checked Lincoln is Alpha and he doesn't answer to you Max." "So be a good boy and follow orders." "F**k you Mikey" he says and I growl at him. "I would be very careful Max, I may be your brother but that won't stop me from kicking your a**." "As I already said just follow orders." "We are here to just have a conversation not kill them." He flips me the bird before we head inside. As soon as I walk in, I can smell the wolves. They are definitely pack wolves, not rogues. I turn and see the two men sitting in the booth. I walk over and Max follows close behind me. "Good morning, gentlemen." They look up, trying to act like they didn't smell us coming in. "Can we help you with something", the one on the right asks. "As a matter of fact, you can." "Let's go outside and talk in the fresh air." They look at each other. "Don't mistake this for a request." I step back so they can get out of the booth. "We are in neutral territory and we haven't caused any trouble." "Let's keep it that way and have a friendly conversation." "Let's take our conversation outside so we can speak privately." They hesitate for a moment but then they make the right decision which I'm grateful for.

They move out of the booth and we follow them to the parking lot. We walk until we are out of the ear shot of the humans. "What are your names and what pack are you from?" I can see they don't want to answer. "I suggest you answer if you want to stay out of that trouble you mentioned. "My name is Walker and this is Joseph" the one on the right says. "We are warriors from the Darkmoon pack." "What is your business in the human city?" "This is neutral territory so your pack has no say about what wolves come in and out of it." I move closer to the a**hole. "You would do well to answer my questions

or you will find out just what my Alpha is capable of.” “My Alpha and pack own half this city so it’s his business anytime super naturals decide to step foot into it.” “So, you can either tell us what your business is here or we can take you to the pack cells for a while to think about it.” I can see they are linking each other. “We have been searching all the human cities that surround our pack because our Luna has gone missing.” “Before you ask, we have no details besides she left the pack.” “Our Alpha gives us orders and we follow them.” “I’m sure you know what that’s like, Beta.”

“That may be but our Alpha will want answers.” “I would suggest you contact your Alpha and make him aware that Alpha Lincoln of the Nightfire Pack expects to have a discussion with him about the details of why you are here and why your wolves are near our pack border. The warrior nods at me. I hand him the number. “I would suggest that call happen very quickly or you will be seeing us again.” “You two can enjoy your breakfast but remember that if there is any trouble our next visit will not be so pleasant.” They walk back and head inside the diner. “Why the f**k didn’t you tell them about the woman?” “She could be their missing Luna” Max says. “Until we have all the details, we are not telling them sh*t.” “You don’t think it’s odd that they used the words left not taken.” “We don’t owe her any protection and keeping a Luna from her Alpha could cause a pack war.” “Alpha Lincoln knows what he is doing so you would do well to keep your opinions to yourself.” I can tell he wants to argue but he keeps his mouth shut this time. We head toward the woods and shift running toward the pack. I’m sure Lincoln is finished with his meeting by now and he will want to know what we found out.

Amelia POV

To say I’m in shock is an understatement. Lily is a witch. Here I am thinking I’m the only one keeping big secrets and she is a witch. I go over to the sink and rinse my mouth out with water. I splash water on my face before I sit down in a chair in the bathroom. Lily sits on the edge of the tub. We sit in silence for a few minutes before Lily finally breaks it. “Amelia, how are you feeling?” “I’ll be alright.” “Teleportation is something you have to get used to” Lily says. “I’ll take your word for it.” I stand up and head out to sit on the couch. Lily comes to sit next to me. “Amelia, I know I said I wouldn’t press you

but I know those wolves were looking for you.” “Are you in trouble?” “Please let me help you.” Lily told me her secret and the least I can do is trust her with mine. Besides, I have a feeling I’m going to need the help if Atlas has sent pack members this far.

"You're right they are looking for me." I take a deep breath and start a story I prayed I wouldn't have to tell again. "I was mated to the Beta of the Darkmoon pack." I lay my hand on my stomach. "I thought we were happy but I was very wrong." "I hadn't felt well my whole pregnancy." "I was having pain a lot but thankfully every time the doctor checked me the pup was good." "Never did I think that the pain I was having was related to my mate scr*wing someone else." She covers her mouth with her hand. "Oh, my goddess Amelia, I'm so sorry." "How could he violate your bond like that?" I chuckle but it's not because what I'm about to say is funny. "I wish that was the worst of it." "The day I left I was in pain again so I decided to go to my mate's office." "That's when I heard them." "My mate was with someone but not just any random person." "He was f**king the pack's Luna who happens to be his brother's mate." The look of shock would be comical on her face if I didn't know what put it there. After a few minutes of silence, she pulls me into a hug. "I'm so sorry Amelia." "I can't believe that any mate could be so cruel and deceitful." I hug her back and, for the first time since I left my pack, I feel like I'm not alone.

She sits back "let me call John and tell him we are safe before we get everything you need." "I'm not sure we should go shopping with the pack wolves in the city." She smiles and puts the phone to her ear. "John, we are at my apartment and safe." I can only hear one side of the conversation. She hangs up and I can't help myself but ask "Lily is John like you?" She smiles "John and I escaped our coven together but that's a story for another time." "He is my cousin and best friend." "Now let's get started so we can get you moved in." She walks over picking up a huge stack of magazines. "Do you have the keys to the apartment?" "I do, why?" She nods toward the door and I go down the hall opening the door to my empty apartment. Once we are inside, she picks up a furniture magazine. She flips to a page with couches. "Which one do you like?" I look at her confused and point to a leather looking sofa. She waves her hand around and the couch appears in front of us. I can't believe what I'm seeing. "It's good to be friends with a witch" Lily says with a smile. We move from room to room and Lily conjures up

everything I need. I never expected when I woke up this morning to have a friend, who is a witch and a furnished apartment.

When we reach the pup's room, Lily conjures a rocking chair for me to sit in. By the time we are done, the room is blue and decorated with wild animals. She went a little overboard on the clothes but she couldn't be stopped. She went on and on about each one being too cute not to have. I look around the room again. It's the most beautiful room I have ever seen. I stand up from the

rocking chair and wrap Lily in a hug. “Thank you for being kind to me before you even knew me.” “Thank you, for helping me make this apartment into a home.” “Thank you for being the kind of friend that everyone should have.” “Well, you can’t get rid of me now.” “I promise you that I won’t let anything happen to you or that pup growing in your belly.” She bends down speaking directly to my belly “right bean, I’m going to be your auntie.” It makes me smile. Lily’s phone rings and she stands up, taking it out of her pocket. “Right now, is that really necessary,” Lily says to whoever is on the other side of the call. “Fine, we will be there in an hour.” She hangs up and I have a feeling I’m not going to like what she is about to tell me. “What’s wrong” I ask. “The pack warriors dealt with the wolves from the diner but the Alpha wants to meet with you.” I feel like a rock just settled in my stomach. I have no desire to go to this pack or meet with any Alpha, but I know it wasn’t a request. I’m sure I can make him understand I’m no threat to his pack. “Fine, let’s get this over with.”

Lincoln POV

I’m in my office when Michael and Max return from the diner. “We spoke with the wolves, Alpha, and I think they understand how things are going to work when they are in the human city.” He is only calling me Alpha because Max is here. Michael is not just my Beta but my best friend. “Why are they here” I ask. “There Luna left the pack and they are looking for her”, Michael says. “I’m sure, it’s that new she- wolf that Lily met”, Max says. Michael shoots daggers at his brother before he continues. “As I said to Max, they used the words she left not she was taken.” “Something doesn’t make sense about a Luna leaving a pack.” Michael is right. A Luna, especially a pregnant one, is not going to leave her mate and

pack without good reason. “Alright, I think it’s time to meet this she-wolf.” I call John and tell him to have Lily bring the she-wolf to my pack. I hang up and Max has left. “Michael, I want two warriors to stay on top of these men until I hear from the Darkmoon Alpha.” “I will take care of it Lincoln, and I will let you know as soon as Lily arrives.” “Thank you” I say before Michael leaves. “I don’t like the feeling I’m getting about this Alpha or his pack Lincoln” Talon says. “Me either, Talon.”

Chapter 7

7 Meeting

Amelia POV

As we drive to the pack, I feel sick to my stomach. I had hoped by going to the human city I could avoid having to deal with a pack Alpha. I know that they are not all as kind as Elias. We make a left onto a road outside of the city and drive for a mile before we come to a gate. I can see how big the pack house is from here. The Darkmoon pack is large, but this pack seems to be even larger. The guard opens the gate after he waves at Lily. "Don't be nervous, Lincoln is very nice." I want to say it's because she is a witch, but I keep my mouth shut. He would be foolish to piss her off with her powers. I lay my hand on my bump after I feel my little one kick. A few seconds later, she pulls into a parking spot. I take a deep breath before I step out of the car. I follow Lily until we reach the pack house. "Good afternoon, Beta Michael" she says to a man waiting at the door. Another man who looks like him is standing behind him with a stoic look on his face. "Beta Michael this is Amelia, Amelia this is Beta Michael." I bare my neck as a sign of respect to him. "That isn't necessary Amelia, welcome to the Nightfire Pack." "Alpha Lincoln is waiting for the two of you in his office." The other man steps aside and Michael leads us past him. "Amelia this is Max the packs head warrior." I bare my neck to him and when I look up, he nods. I can feel him staring at me until we make our way up the stairs. "Don't mind Max, he can be intense, but he's a good guy." I don't say anything, I just keep walking. "He seems like an a**hat to me" Star says.

We reach the office and Michael knocks before he opens the door. I walk in behind Lily and a man that looks like a male model is sitting behind the desk. What the hell is wrong with me? I haven't even broken my bond with Atlas and I'm checking out this Alpha. "He is definitely nice on the eyes", Star says. I push her to the back of my mind. What the hell is wrong with both of us? When our eyes meet, he smiles. His smile is kind and his eyes are an ocean blue. I look down, not understanding what the hell is wrong with me. I've been around attractive wolves all my life but Atlas is the only one that I have

thought about this way. Once I've composed myself, I look back up. "Alpha Lincoln, this is my friend Amelia." "John told me that you wanted to meet her since she is new in town." "Please ladies have a seat." I take a seat next to Lily. "Amelia, as Lily said my name is Alpha Lincoln." "This is the Nightfire pack." "It is very nice to meet you, Alpha." "It's nice to meet you as well." "Amelia, you have nothing to fear here." "No one will harm you or your pup while you're in my pack." I'm sure he can tell I'm nervous. "Thank you, Alpha." "Lily, can I speak to Amelia alone please." I'm sure fear flashes across my face and Lily looks torn at his request. I don't want him angry at her. I tamp down the fear I feel. "I'll be fine Lily," I manage to get out without sounding

afraid. She gets up to leave. She turns back smiling at me before she walks out, closing the door behind her.

Lincoln POV

I'm in my office when Michael links me that Lily and the she-wolf have arrived. A few minutes later, a knock sounds on the door and Lily walks in, followed by one of the most beautiful women I have ever seen in my life. Talon is growling in my head. I ignore him and push him to the back of my mind. I don't want her to think I'm rude. Once Lily introduces us, they both take a seat. I can see that she is nervous. When I ask Lily to leave, I can tell she is afraid but cares more about Lily getting in trouble. Not that Lily would be in trouble for wanting Amelia to be comfortable. Lily knows I would never hurt Amelia. I pride myself on being an Alpha with honor and integrity. Hurting a pregnant she-wolf would fall into neither category. "I'm sure you know why I have called for you to meet with me." "Please understand I have to ask these questions to protect my pack." She nods and I continue. "Amelia are you the Luna of the Darkmoon pack?" Her face that once showed fear is now one of disgust. "Absolutely not" she says. I'm a little shocked by her answer because I thought for sure she was. "Freya Canfield is the Luna of the Darkmoon Pack" she says with anger in her tone. "So you aren't the Luna but you're from the pack?"

She waits a moment before she answers me. "Yes, I used to be a member of the pack but now I'm not." "Amelia, I can tell that you don't want to explain to me what happened but I need answers to protect everyone." "The Darkmoon Alpha is sending wolves near my territory and the human city looking for his

Luna." "If you are in some kind of trouble with the Alpha now is the time to tell me." "I haven't broken werewolf law if that is what you're asking me." I can see she is angry but I'm not offended. "I like her she is feisty" Talon says. "She is very pretty too." "Settle down, I'm sure you can see she is marked and with pup." "Besides weren't you the one pushing to wait for our mate." "I didn't say to f**k her, I am drawn to her." "I think we should protect her." "I feel some connection to her and her wolf." I push him down again but I felt it to when she came in too. I look back to her to finish our conversation. "I appreciate that you didn't break werewolf law, but I need to know why you left your pack and where your mate is."

Amelia POV

"Just tell him what that ba**ard Atlas did to us" Star says to me. "We have no idea if he is one of those Alphas that thinks screwing around, on their mate is

no big deal.” “You won’t know if you don’t tell him.” “I trust him and his wolf” Star says which shocks me. She quiets and I pray I’m making the right decision. “My mate has been cheating on me since I got pregnant with our pup.” He says nothing for a few minutes. “I’m sorry Amelia, that is awful.” “No mate should violate that bond.” “When I found out what he was doing I left the pack and I didn’t look back.” “I came to the human city because I’m a rogue now.” “I know how pack wolves feel about rogues.” He doesn’t say anything for a moment. “Amelia leaving your pack doesn’t break the bond you have with them or your mate.” “I have no idea what’s happening at the pack since I left but my brother-in-law was the Alpha who released my bond to the pack when I told him what was happening.” He looks at me confused. “My mate is the pack’s Beta and was the Alpha’s brother.” “Was” he says as a question. “I spoke to my mother to let her know that I’m safe and she told me that Alpha Elias was killed by his mate after I left.” “So your mate has taken the Alpha title and is looking for you because that will make you Luna.” “I will not go back to him or that pack.” “I will never be his Luna or mate.” “If my presence in the city near your pack is a problem, I will keep going till I find another city.”

He stands coming around the desk and sits in the chair that Lily left. “Amelia, you have done nothing wrong that you can’t stay in the city.” “You do realize that he is not going to stop looking for you.” “He can look till the end of time.” “Even if he finds me I will never be his Luna after what he did to me and my pup.” I lay my hand on my bump like I’m protecting him from the idea of Atlas. “Atlas is supposed to be calling me to discuss his wolves presence in my territory.” “After my discussion with him I will let you know what happens.” “Thank you, Alpha, I appreciate that.” I stand sticking my hand out to him to shake. He stands with a smile on his face. He takes my hand and the minute our skin touches I feel something. Something I can’t even describe. I pull my hand back and place it against my thigh. “If that is all Alpha Lincoln, I will leave you to your duties.” “Thank you for your time and understanding.” “Have a good day, Alpha.” “You have a good day to Amelia.” “I don’t give him a chance to say anything more and I walk out the door. Lily is waiting and follows me as I go down the stairs. “Amelia, are you alright.” “Yes, I’m fine, just tired.” “I need to lay down.” She doesn’t push me and we head out to the car. The ride to the apartment is in awkward silence. I know she wants to ask me what was said but thankfully she doesn’t. We pull into the parking garage and head up to our apartments. I’m glad that I can stay in my apartment in my new bed tonight. “Lily, will you take me to the hotel tomorrow to pick up my car.” She smiles “of course.” I turn the key in the door and head inside. I know it’s nowhere near bedtime but I wasn’t lying to Lily when I said I needed to lay

down. Once I take a shower, I slide into my bed and it doesn't take long for sleep to take me under. I dream of a wolf with brilliant blue eyes as I sleep.

Atlas POV

My phone rings and it's Walker. "What have you found?" "Joseph and I caught her scent today in a diner in the human city near the Nightfire Pack." "Good, find her and bring her back to me." "Make sure you are gentle with her or you will both be very sorry." "I'm afraid it won't be that simple Alpha." I growl "what the f**k does that mean?" "We were confronted by the Beta of the Nightfire pack at the diner about being in the city." "You were in neutral territory." "They have nothing to say about your presence there." "It seems the Alpha and pack own a large portion of this human city." "He wants to hear from

you Alpha if we are to continue to look for her here." "Arrogant ba**ard, I am the Alpha and I don't answer to him." "You answer to me so I don't care what the f**k he wants." "With all due respect Alpha if we hope to find her here you may want to speak with him otherwise, they could make a lot of trouble for the trackers." "Fine I'll call the a**hole but only because of Amelia." "You two stay there and continue to look." "Actually, I'm going to send two more trackers to join you." "Yes Alpha" he says before he gives me the Alpha's number."

I walk over to the bar in my office and down two fingers of whiskey before I call this Alpha Lincoln. "You better sell that Freya is to blame to this guy so we can get Amelia back" Silas growls. "I know what to say so settle down." I dial and put the phone to my ear. He picks up on the second ring. "Alpha Lincoln" he says. "Alpha Lincoln this is Alpha Atlas of the Darkmoon pack." "Hello Alpha, thank you for calling me." "You're welcome, my men said you wanted to speak to me about their presence near your territory and in the human city." "I'm sure you can understand my concern with unknown wolves near my pack." "Of course, I can, so please let me explain." "My sister-in-law turned out to be an evil b**ch who decided she wanted me to be her mate and my brother dead." He says nothing and I continue. "She filled my mate Amelia's head with lies about me being unfaithful and she killed my brother who was our pack's Alpha." "Amelia believed her and left me and the pack before I could make her understand it was all lies." "She is pregnant with my pup and I need to get her back before something bad happens to them." "I need to make her understand that everything Freya said was a lie." "I would never betray my mate." "I can understand how upsetting that must be for you but I can not have wolves causing issues in my city." "As one Alpha to another I will have my men look for her and if I find her I will give you a call." "As far as your men if there is any trouble related to them in my city I will be forced to protect what

is mine.” “Do we have an understanding Alpha Atlas?” I am silent for a moment. I have no intention of pulling my men out of the city now that I know they have scented her. “Yes, Alpha Lincoln, we understand each other.” “Good, I will let you know should we find her.” The line goes dead and I slam the phone down. That condescending pr*ck will not keep me from finding my mate.

Chapter 8

8 Pas

Amelia POV

I’m lying in my new bed admiring my ceiling. I’ve been awake for about an hour thinking about everything that happened yesterday. I can’t believe that I slept all the way till this morning. I knew I was tired but fifteen hours is a lot. “Star what do you think about Alpha Lincoln?” “I told you, I think he is hot.” “Be serious Star, I know he is handsome, but what about us trusting him.” “I don’t know Amelia but I feel drawn to him.” “I don’t understand it because we are still mated to that ba**ard Atlas but I trust him completely.” “Maybe its just being around a strong male wolf whose kind after Atlas’s betrayal.” “I know you don’t believe that Amelia.” “You felt something when he touched your hand.” “Star we are still mated to Atlas and that’s not possible to feel anything for another wolf.” “Anything is possible if the goddess says so” she says before she recedes into my mind. I push thoughts of Alpha Lincoln and what Star just said out of my mind and get up to shower. She’s wrong, I need to focus on myself and my pup. I head out of my room toward the kitchen when a knock sounds on the door. I stop in my tracks. After seeing those two wolves yesterday, I’m nervous even though I know how secure this place is.

I walk toward the door slowly and press my eye to the peep hole to look out. I see a smiling Lily. I didn’t expect her this early but she probably has work and I asked her to take me to get my car. I open the door and she is holding a plate full of Danish. “I brought breakfast” she says and walks past me. We head into the kitchen and I make both of us a cup of coffee. I set her cup down in front of her. I grab creamer from the refrigerator before I take a seat and grab a cheese Danish. “Are you alright Amelia” she asks. “I am, yesterday was just a lot to deal with and I needed to get a good night’s sleep.” We eat for a few minutes more and my curiosity gets the best of me. I want to

understand Lily better. I can't believe she left her coven just like I left my pack. "Can I ask you something Lily?" "Of course, you can."

"Why did you say that you ran away from your coven with John?" I see hurt flash across her face and I feel like an a**hole for even asking. "I'm sorry, you don't need to tell me if it's upsetting to you."

Lily POV

I had intended to tell Amelia about my past since she confided in me. I just hate thinking about my family. "No, it's ok, honestly I want you to know." She stays quiet and I continue. "My parents were the leaders of the coven I grew up in." "I was just about to turn eighteen when my father called me into his office." "My father was never really warm to me but he wasn't cruel." "I noticed right away that my mother wasn't there." "He had never asked to speak to me privately before that day."

Flashback

"Sit down Lily" my father says. I walk over and take the chair in front of his desk. "You will soon be eighteen and, as you know, we have an alliance with the Black Rose Coven." I'm not sure what one has to do with the other, but I don't question him. "The coven is much larger than ours and in order to keep our alliance they have requested you be given to their son as a chosen beloved." I feel like I didn't hear him correctly. "You will spend your birthday with your mother and I but the next day you will be taken to the Black Rose Coven." I feel like I'm about to be sick. He can't really be serious right now. "You're giving me away?" "Lily, you're not a child anymore, sometimes in life we have to make sacrifices for the good of the coven." "You're sacrificing me" I can feel the tears starting to stream down my face. "Does mom know that you're doing this?" "Your mother has no say in this, it's done." "I will not be forced into a mating that I don't agree with." My father gets up and comes around the desk. He grabs my face in his hand squeezing my cheeks in his fingers. "You have mistaken that you have a choice, young lady." "If you keep this up you won't even spend your birthday here." "Have I made myself clear?" I don't respond. "Answer me now Lily or I will have the guards take you to the Black Rose Coven tonight." "It's clear" I manage to get out before I get up and head for the door. His words stop me with my hand gripping the handle. "Take solace in the fact that you are keeping the entire coven safe, Lily." I don't respond to his pathetic words.

I leave my father's office and head straight to my room. My father will not use me as payment for this coven's protection. I throw a bag on my bed and start to throw as many clothes as I can into it. A knock sounds on the door and my mother walks in. "Lily" she stops the minute she sees I'm packing. "Lily, what are you doing?" I turn to her and I'm sure my cheeks are still tear-stained. She rushes to me, pulling me into her arms. "Lily tell me what is happening." I tell her everything my father just said to me. She pulls back and brushes the hair out of my face. "Lily, I will not let that happen." "Let me speak to him before you do anything rash."

An hour later, my mother comes back to my room but this time she isn't alone. My cousin John is with her. She looks more upset than I did earlier and I know how her conversation with my father went. "I will not let him do this to you even if that means you run far from this place." "Mom, what will happen to you if he finds out you helped me?" She smiles but it doesn't reach her eyes. "I will be fine," she says as she picks up my bag after sticking something inside." "John will be going with you and I want you both to stay safe." "Once I get you through the coven shield you go as far as you can and find a human city to settle in." "You will be safe there." I wrap my mother in a hug for the last time before we head outside.

Flashback Over

"That's the last time I saw my mother." Amelia pulls me into a hug. "I'm so sorry you had to go through that." I pull back "we all have things we have to have the strength to get through." "I wanted you to know what happened to me because I know you will get through this too." "Thank you, Lily." "I'm so glad I found you." I smile "everything happens for a reason in our lives we just don't always know what that reason is." "Alright, enough of the heavy stuff." "Are you ready to head to the hotel for your first shift?"

Amelia POV

I'm glad Lily felt like she could trust me with her past. I will never understand how people who are supposed to love and protect you can do such horrible things. When she says about my first shift at the hotel I smile. "I totally forgot about you saying I would start my job after I got my apartment." "If, you're not ready, we can wait a few more days" Lily says. "Oh, no, I'm ready." "Is there a uniform I have to wear?" "No what you have on is fine." I grab my phone and keys before I follow Lily down to her car. We drive to the hotel and head inside. John is behind the counter and he comes around to greet us both. "Good morning, ladies." "Good morning" we say in unison. "How are you

today, Amelia, after everything that happened yesterday?” “I’m good thank you, for asking.” We talk for a few more minutes before Lily walks me over to the restaurant.

Honestly, I enjoy my first shift. I seat customers and people watch when we aren’t busy. It’s my last half an hour before my shift is over and I’m watching the lobby when I notice the two wolves from the diner walk in. I see John and Lily are behind the counter helping customers. What the hell do I do now? It’s not like I can teleport my a** out of here. I see the moment they catch my scent. I’m in no condition to run or shift. My best bet is to stay put and pray they won’t make a scene in front of humans. Two other men walk in and I realize I know one of them. It’s Neal, the head warrior of the Darkmoon pack. Sh*t there’s four of them now. “Just stay put Amelia”, Star says. I’m standing at the hostess’s station when they walk over to me. “Gentleman, table for four” I say while counting out four menus. Neal speaks first “Luna” he says low. “Don’t you ever call me that again.” “If you are not here to have dinner you can walk yourselves right back out of this hotel.” Neal has a look of shock on his face. Maybe he assumes I will be a good little she-wolf and follow him back to the pack. He is sadly mistaken.

“Amelia, can we please go somewhere to speak away from the humans” he says low. “I think I made myself perfectly clear, the answer is no.” Before I know what’s happening, a warrior I don’t know grabs my arm and starts to squeeze it. “You don’t have a choice, we have orders.” Neal immediately grabs him and makes him release me. At this point, Lily and John are by my side. “Did you really just put your hands on her.” Lily says to the wolf I don’t know. “I’m sorry ma’am, we will be leaving” Neal says. Lily’s

eyes get big when Neal speaks. They turn and walk out of the hotel. Before I can ask Lily what was up with her look of shock, she takes my arm. “He left a mark on you.” “Lily, it’s not a big deal.” “It will be gone in a few minutes.” “I don’t care that ba**ard man handled you.” “I think the word man handle might be a little strong.” I smile “it’s fine let’s just finish our shift before we head home.” “Are you sure you’re alright, Amelia” John asks with a look of concern on his face. “I promise you I’m fine, now get back to work.” They both go back to their desk and I sit at the hostess station.

Neal POV

Once we get outside and out of the sight of humans, I grab Anthony by the throat. “You put your hands on the Luna of our pack.” He grabs at my hands trying to get me to release him. “She isn’t the Luna yet” he manages to croak

out. "She is the mate of our Alpha and when I tell him that you grabbed her what do you think he is going to do to you." "I was just trying to follow the Alpha's orders." "You don't do another thing unless I tell you to." "Is that clear a**hole." "Yes, Beta" he says and I drop him to the ground. "Now get your a** up." "Let's go to the cottage I rented so I can give an update to the Alpha." We move farther into the woods before we shift. I made sure the cottage was outside the city but away from the Nightfire pack after Atlas told me about his conversation with the pack's Alpha. I want to get the Luna back, but I also want to make sure we don't piss this pack off. The pack is twice as big as ours and I have no desire to have war for no reason.

We reach the cottage and shift back. Once we are inside, I head to my room to link Atlas. "You better have good news for me, Neal." "We spoke with her Alpha but getting her out of the human city is not going to be easy." "She refused to come with us to even talk." "Neal, I don't want to hear that you can't handle a pregnant she-wolf." "Bring her home or you and the men will be very sorry." He cuts the link and I lay back on my bed. I really wish that Elias was here because his brother isn't half the Alpha he was. I am loyal to my Alpha and pack. I just pray to the goddess that I'm doing the right thing by following Atlas.

Chapter 9

9 Will You

Atlas POV

As soon as I hang up with that ba**ard Lincoln I place a call to Elder Thomas. "Alpha Atlas, I didn't expect to hear from you yet." "I'm sorry to report that we haven't located Amelia." "That's actually why I'm calling you." "I believe that my trackers have an idea of her location but I'm having an issue with a surrounding pack's Alpha." "Who would that be?" "Alpha Lincoln of the Nightfire Pack." "Alpha Lincoln is a wonderful Alpha and very kind." "I can't imagine he wouldn't be anything but helpful if he understood what was happening." "Have you explained the situation to him?" I roll my eyes because I want to say he's an a**hole but I can't. "Alpha Lincoln told me he would let me know if they located a she-wolf in the human city but he doesn't want my pack warriors in his city." "I don't see that as an odd request." "If Alpha Lincoln says he will let you know if a she-wolf comes into town then he absolutely will." "I'm sure you understand why he doesn't want random wolves around his

territory.” “Of course, Elder Thomas, but I was hoping you could visit him to impress upon him the situation and why Amelia believes I was unfaithful to her.” “If he is the Alpha you described and she tells him what she believes happened he may not do as he has offered.” “I see your concern.” “I will reach out and set up a time to meet with him.” “Thank you, Elder Thomas, I really appreciate all your help in this hard time.” “Of course, Atlas whatever I can do to help you and your pack, I will do.” I hang up and I can feel Silas at the surface. I need to shift and run. I head out of the pack house and shift. Silas is getting angrier every day we are without Amelia and Star.

Amelia POV

Lily and I finish up our shifts and John walks us to our cars. “Thank you, John.” “Your welcome, Amelia.” “Lily and I are here to help you anyway we can.” I smile and wish that I could just be living a normal life right now instead of worrying about what Atlas will do. Once I’m in my car, I lock the doors. I hate that once again, I have to worry about wolves from my pack coming after me. It was bad enough

that they came to the diner, but now a job I just started. Soon they will be showing up where I live. I pull out onto the street heading for my apartment. Lily is right behind me and I know she is following to make sure nothing happens. I really wanted to stay here and build a life, but I can’t do that with Atlas and his wolves knowing I’m here. Lily is amazing and I love my apartment, but I can’t just wait for them to take me against my will back to that ba**ard. Neal seemed reasonable but he may not be the one that comes for me next time. I will not subject myself or my pup to a man like Atlas ever again. After everything that’s happened, I truly don’t know what he is capable of. “Amelia, I don’t think we should run.” “Alpha Lincoln” I cut her off before she can say any more about Lincoln. “Star, Alpha Lincoln is nothing to us but a kind Alpha.” “I will not put his pack at risk for us.” She whimpers and recedes in my mind. I don’t want to leave either, but I have to do what’s right for everyone involved.

I pull into the parking garage using my entry key. I take the space that goes with my apartment and Lily pulls into hers. Once we are both out of the car, we take the elevator up to the third floor in silence. As we get off the elevator, Lily grabs my hand. “Why don’t you come have dinner with me tonight?” “What are you craving, I can make anything you want?” I smile because she really is the sweetest girl. I know she has endured her own heartbreak and I hate that she will probably have more when I leave. We have become good friends in a short period of time. “I would love that but I’m exhausted.” “I’m

going to grab something quick to eat before I head into bed.” “Growing this pup is exhausting me”, I chuckle. She chuckles and pulls me into a hug. “Ok but if you need me you come get me, I don’t care what time.” “I’ll get you in the morning and we can ride into work together again tomorrow.” I nod because I hate that I won’t be here when she comes for me tomorrow.

I head inside my apartment trying to take it all in one last time. I love everything about this space. How Lily helped me decorate it and make it mine. I start to pack my bag and grab some food for the road. I sit in the nursery for a long time thinking about what it would have been like to lay my pup in the crib or rock him in this chair. I feel the tears run down my cheeks. He continues to take from me even when I’m this far from him. I put some of the pup’s clothes and diapers in a bag before I head back out to the

living room. I set the bags by the door and sit on the couch. I’m going to wait a little while so hopefully, Lily won’t realize I’ve left my apartment.

Alpha Lincoln

We are just sitting down to dinner in the pack dining room. The Alpha table consists of Michael, myself, and my parents. Thankfully, they haven’t brought up me taking a chosen mate since our last conversation. I’m grateful they are respecting my boundaries. As if my thought conjures her, Jennifer walks into the dining room. She walks toward the table and when she reaches it, she hugs my parents before she takes a seat next to me. I don’t say anything and I continue to eat. My phone rings in my pocket and I take it out placing it to my ear. “What’s up John?” “Alpha, we had an incident at the hotel about twenty minutes ago.” I can feel myself squeezing my phone a little tighter. I loosen my grip so I don’t snap the phone in my hand. “What happened” I growl. “Four wolves came in looking for Amelia this time.” “Is she alright?” I see Jennifer snap her head in my direction at my words but I ignore her. “One grabbed her arm but she’s alright.” I can feel Talon at the surface. “He put his f**king hands on her.” “Yes Alpha, but thankfully one of the wolves that seemed like a ranked pack member put him in his place.” “Where is she now” I ask. “Amelia and Lily headed back to the apartment after her shift was finished.” “Thank you for letting me know.” “Where are the wolves now?” “Honestly Alpha, I’m not sure.” “I stayed with Amelia to protect her in case they returned.” “You did the right thing John.” “Just tell Lily to stay with her until Michael and I get there.” “Yes Alpha” he says and the line goes dead.

“Lincoln, what is going on, that sounded serious.” “It’s ok mom but I do need to go.” Michael stands just as I do and we start for the door. I knew leaving

was too easy. "Lincoln" I turn and Jennifer is standing with her hands on her hips. "Michael, go get the car ready I'll be right there." Michael leaves and I turn back to Jennifer. "What do you need Jenn?" "Who is she?" "I don't have time for this right now and besides that its none of your business." "We have been friends our whole lives and now it's none of my business when a woman is involved." "Jennifer we are friends but that is all we are ever going to be." "Right now, I need to go help someone who is in trouble because that is what an Alpha does." I say no

more before I turn and head down to the car. I hop in and tell Michael to take us to the apartment complex. We arrive about twenty minutes later. After the car is parked, we head up to Lily's apartment.

Amelia POV

I stick my head out the door to check if anyone is in the hallway. When I see it's empty, I grab my bags and walk to the elevator. I push the button several times, wishing for the door to open already. A few seconds later, the ding sounds and the doors open. "Sh*t" I say and Alpha Lincoln smiles at me. "Good evening, to you too Amelia." "I'm sorry Alpha, I didn't mean any disrespect." "None was taken." "Now where are you off to with those bags?" I'm just about to answer when Lily comes rushing out of her apartment. When she notices my bags, her facial expression changes to one of anger. "I told you so" Star says and I roll my eyes. "Are you kidding, you're leaving without saying a word." "Why would you do that?"

"Let's go inside Lily and have a conversation with Amelia" Alpha Lincoln says. They take my bags from me and lead me into Lily's apartment. I take a seat and Lily sits next to me but she doesn't say a word. I didn't mean to hurt her. "Lily I'm sorry, I was trying to do what's best for everyone." "I have no idea what Atlas is capable of and I don't want anyone to get hurt because of me." "I am a witch and I can handle that poor excuse that you once called a mate." "Do you really think running is what's best for you and your pup?" Before I can answer Alpha Lincoln clears his throat. "Amelia, running away is not the answer." "I told you that Atlas was not going to stop coming for you." "That will not change if you go to a different city." "I cannot put my friends and your pack at risk." I take Lily's hand and she doesn't pull away. "It's a good thing it isn't up to you." I look at him confused. "We are going to help you because we want to and its not up for debate." "I don't understand why you would help me." "I'm just a rogue." He growls "don't call yourself that again." "That was super-hot" Star says and I push her down. I agree, but this is not the time or place for acting like a teenage girl with a crush.

Lincoln POV

“Amelia, I would like for you to come to the pack and stay for a while.” “We can set you up in one of the guest rooms in the pack house.” “You would be able to see the pack doctor for checkups with your pregnancy.” “You would be safe from Atlas and his pack.” “He wouldn’t dare to step foot in my territory.” I can’t read her expression. “I can help you decorate it just like the apartment” Lily says. “Lily, I appreciate that but that is not why I have to say no.” She turns to me “I cannot do that because you will be in trouble if Atlas finds out you are hiding me in your pack.” “You know that is against werewolf law now that I am considered his Luna.” She is right but if we can prove that he violated their bond he will be the one that will face charges by the elders. “Technically you have not been given the title so you are not a Luna yet.” “If we can prove that he violated your bond he would be the one who is in trouble with the Elders.” “Alpha it’s his word against mine.” “You know as well as I do who the Elders are more likely to believe.” I smile “true but you also have an Alpha who believes you and is willing to help you with the Elders.” “Lincoln, what the hell are you doing” Michael links me. “I’m doing what an Alpha does, helps someone in need.” He doesn’t say anymore. I can see she is torn but after a few minutes she finally answers me. “I will stay in the pack but only if you contact the Elder to tell them why I’m staying in your pack.”

Chapter 10

10 Pack

Amelia POV

I can’t believe I’ve agreed to go to the Nightfire Pack. “It’s the right thing to do, Amelia”, Star says. I know she’s right, but I still hate that I’m involving others in my problems with Atlas. “I know Star, I just hope that we can convince the Elders about what Atlas has done so we can raise our pup in peace.” “Have faith, Amelia” she says before she recedes in my mind. I’m in my room with Lily gathering more clothes to take with me. I know she is still hurt that I was leaving without telling her because she has been quiet since we came into this room. “Lily, I’m sorry that I was going to leave without telling you.” She sits on the bed and I can see unshed tears in her eyes when she looks up at me. “I truly understand why you thought leaving was the right choice.” “I was just upset because since I have left home and my mother, you’re the first woman who has felt like family to me.” “I know how crazy that sounds because we

haven't known each other long but if I could pick a sister Amelia, you would be it." I wrap her in a hug. "I don't think that sounds crazy, I feel the same way." "I promise I won't try to leave again without talking to you." "Thank you, now let's get you packed so we can decorate your new room." I plan to come back to my apartment when everything is settled but it will be nice to make the room I stay in my own. We head back out to the living room where Michael and Lincoln are waiting. I can tell Michael is concerned about Lincoln's offer to take me to the pack.

I have stayed quiet in my life far too long. "Beta Michael, are you alright with me coming to the pack?" "Amelia" Lincoln begins to say, but I give him a look that leaves no room for discussion. Michael looks at Lincoln when I ask my question. "Michael, I won't be offended, please speak freely." I turn to Lincoln, "please give him permission to speak freely." I can tell Lincoln isn't happy about my request, but, he does as I ask. "I mean no disrespect Amelia but I'm concerned about Atlas and his plans." I'm just about to speak but he continues. "Despite those concerns I completely agree with Alpha Lincoln on protecting you and your pup at the Nightfire pack." I smile "thank you Beta Michael for your honesty."

Lincoln takes my bag and I see a slight smile in the corner of Michael's mouth as he watches Lincoln. I don't say anything as we head for the elevator. Once we are in the parking garage I walk toward Lily's car and I can see that Lincoln wants to say something but he doesn't. "Looks like the Beta even noticed how Alpha Lincoln is with us", Star says. "Star, we are not going to have this conversation again." "He is just being kind, like a good Alpha should." "Elias would do the same for someone in need." "You can lie to yourself but I know you feel something toward him and that he is being more than kind to us." I push her down as he sticks my bag in Lily's car. I slide into the passenger seat waiting for Lily to get in.

Lincoln POV

I get Lily's attention before she gets into the car. "Lily, when you get to the pack, please take her into the dining room until I speak to my father." "I'm sure he will be waiting after I left so abruptly and I don't want him to insult Amelia because he thinks she is a rogue." "No problem, Alpha" Lily says. "Lily, you know you don't have to use my title unless we are in a formal setting." "I know but after what you just did for my friend you deserved to be called Alpha." She winks before she gets into the driver's seat. I roll my eyes and chuckle, heading to our car. Once I'm in the car, Michael drives out of the parking complex. He starts to drive toward the pack and I can see Lily's car is

following us in the mirror. Talon and I had been on edge since we got the call from John so he is finally calm. "Alright, what is up with you with this she-wolf?" At first I think about just telling him to drop it, but Michael is the only person I can talk with beside Talon about this." "I'm not sure Michael." "What does that mean?" "Besides that taking her to the pack is the right thing to do, I feel some connection to Amelia." "Lincoln that's not possible." "She is still mated to that do*chebag that cheated on her." "I know Michael but Talon feels it too." "I can't explain it but I need her and the pup to be close to us and I would kill anyone that tried to hurt her. "Well, I meant what I said about protecting her." "Thank you for what you said and trusting what I'm saying." "Lincoln you are not only my Alpha, you are my best friend." "If you say she's important to you then she is important to me."

We pull into the parking near the pack house and I ask Michael to take her bag up to my floor. "Please take it to the room next to mine." He nods taking the bag and heading up the walkway. I take Amelia's hand, helping her out of the car. Every time I touch her skin, the feeling and connection seems to be more intense. She doesn't pull away, but I can tell by her expression she feels it too. "Amelia, Lily is going to take you into the dining room while I speak to my father." "Of course, I'm sure you have a million things to do besides entertain me." "Please don't feel like you need to rush." "I'm sure Lily can take me to my room." "I won't be long and I will show you to your room" I say because I'm sure she is going to wonder why she will be on the Alpha floor. She smiles and I feel the warmth in my chest. "Well, I'm starving so the dining room is perfect." We walk into the pack house and my father is sitting in the living room just as I knew he would be." As soon as he sees Amelia, he stands coming toward me. Lily leads her to the dining room as I asked before he reaches us. "Lincoln, what the hell is going on?" "Come to my office father, we can speak there." I'm grateful when he follows me and doesn't make a scene, so Amelia hears.

Amelia POV

When we get into the dining room, the smell of the food makes my mouth salivate. "Come on Amelia, let's grab some food while we wait for Alpha Lincoln." As we walk to the buffet, I feel like everyone is staring at me. Which is probably true because I'm an outsider. We get our plates and go take a seat at a table near the front of the room. I put the first bite of roast beef in my mouth and I moan because it's so good. "I take it you like the food" Lily says with a chuckle. "Yes, the food is delicious." "What do you think you're doing sitting here" a woman's voice comes from behind me. Lily's head snaps in the voice's direction. "I suggest you walk away from this table Jennifer, unless you

would like us to step outside”, Lily says. I go to stand next to her. “Did you just threaten the future Luna of this pack, witch?” Star growls in my head at her words and I feel a tinge of jealousy, but I push it away. Star is at the surface and I growl. She whips her head in my direction. “Did you just growl at me you filthy rogue?” This b**ch is so lucky there is a pup in my belly right now. I place my hand on my belly without even thinking about it. “Oh, I’m sorry, my mistake, you’re a w***e besides being a filthy rogue.” Before I can stop her, Lily

slaps the she-wolf across the face. If she really is the future Luna, Lily will be in big trouble for hitting her whether she is a witch or not.

“What is going on here?” We all turn toward the voice. “Luna, that vile witch slapped me” she says pointing at Lily. “I was simply trying to tell them they can’t sit at the Alpha table.” “Is this true Lily?” “Yes Luna, I slapped her for the way she spoke to a pack guest.” She looks to me and I bare my neck. “Luna, this is Amelia.” “Alpha Lincoln brought her here today and Jennifer just insulted her.” To my surprise she whirls on Jennifer. “You insulted a guest of the Alpha?” “How was I to know she was his guest?” “That’s exactly the point of this conversation Jennifer” the Luna says. “You have no right to speak to anyone rudely.” “I suggest you leave this room and think about your behavior.” I can see she wants to scream but she maintains her composure. “Yes Luna” she says before she leaves the room.

“Now Lily why don’t you introduce me properly to our guest.” I smile and we all take a seat. “Luna Lorraine this is Amelia.” “Amelia this is Alpha Lincoln’s mother, Luna Lorraine.” “It’s nice to meet you, Luna.” “It’s nice to meet you as well, Amelia.” “How far along are you?” “I’m about three months.” “What are you having?” “I’m having a boy.” “Boys are sweet but I’m partial since that is what I had.” I chuckle “Amelia, I’m not going to ask you why you are here but I want you to know that you will be treated with respect by this pack no matter the reason.” “I apologize for Jennifer’s behavior but hopefully I have made myself clear to her.” “Now please eat, I’m sure the pup is making you hungry all the time.” “I know Lincoln made me into an eating machine.” “I like her” Star says and I completely agree. We continue to talk and just her presence has made me more comfortable.

Lincoln POV

As soon as we reach my office and the door is shut my father lets loose on me. “What the hell are you thinking about bringing a rogue into this pack?” “First of all, father, I don’t appreciate your tone.” “Sit down and we can have a

civilized conversation.” “Secondly I am Alpha and I know what the hell I am doing.” I know he hates that he isn’t in charge but he respects me as his son and Alpha. My father

takes a seat and I do the same behind my desk. “Now, if you would like to know why Amelia is here, I am glad to answer your questions but her being here is not up for debate.” “So, you’re going to let a rogue stay in our pack.” Talon comes to the surface and I growl at my father. I have never growled at my father. The look of shock on his face is comical. “Did you just growl at me?” “Yes, I did and after I explain everything you will understand why.” “Amelia is not a rogue, she is a pack wolf.” He looks at me confused. I tell him about why she left her pack while she was pregnant with Atlas’s pup. “What kind of mate does that?” “I’m not sure, father, but it seems whatever has happened in the Darkmoon pack, Amelia’s mate has become Alpha.”

“Lincoln, I understand you wanting to help this young lady but you know that what you’re doing is against werewolf-law.” “You cannot keep and Luna from her mate.” “Father, I’m aware of our laws but she was never made Luna and once I speak with the Elders hopefully, they will understand why I had to take her in.” “That is a phone call you need to make sooner than later son.” “I will be making the call today after I get Amelia situated on my floor.” Again, my father looks like he can’t believe what he just heard. “Lincoln, there are guest rooms that would be more appropriate for her to stay in.” Talon growls again and my father crosses his arms over his chest. “Do you want to explain to your father why your wolf has growled at me twice over this she-wolf.” I really hadn’t wanted to bring this up to my father but I guess I have no choice. “Talon and I feel connected to Amelia.” “Lincoln she is still mated and has a pup in her belly.” “I know father but I’m telling you she and her pup mean something to us.” “I need to protect her.” He smiles “you know that your mother and I will support you no matter what but please be careful.” I come around the desk and hug my father. I am very fortunate to have such wonderful parents.

My father and I head downstairs and walk into the dining room. My mother is sitting with Lily and Amelia. She looks happy and comfortable. We walk up to the table and as soon as she sees us, she smiles. “Dad, this is Amelia.” “Amelia, this is my father, Alpha Charles.” She bares his neck to him. “You can just call me Charlie, I’m not Alpha anymore.” “It’s very nice to meet you, Charlie.” “I’m going to steal Amelia and Lily to show them where Amelia will be staying.” “Goodbye Luna and Charlie” she says and

we head upstairs. We reach my floor and walk down the hall till we reach her door, “this is your room.” I point to the door next to it “this is my room.” “This is the Alpha floor” she says like she can’t believe what I just said. “Yes, it is, now I’ll leave you and Lily to decorating your new room.” I don’t give her a chance to argue. I walk away smiling and Talon is prancing in my head. “Really a big bad Alpha wolf prancing.” He growls but I ignore him. I’m just happy she is here and safe.