

7. Home, not so sweet home

-Riley-

"I did not regret." Roman's voice was so soft. I didn't turn back, but my body reacted to his words in a weird way that made me pause. It was happiness. Yes. I felt happy to know that.

I walked towards the apartment building, and I was smiling and my stomach was dancing. I heard Roman's car take off and I looked back for a second with a sigh. A part of me felt sad to know that I would never see this man again.

But it was for the best.

"Do you want to?" Gem asked and I shook my head. I had no idea what I wanted right now.

I knocked on Dee's apartment and waited for her to answer. I heard a loud groan and a yawn, and then she spewed out a string of curses. "For all that is holy, who the f**k is-"

She stopped when she opened the door. Her face was creased and she yawned as she looked at me. And then she snapped her mouth shut as she assessed me from head to toe. "Oh, you look so thoroughly rested. Come in, come in. Is it the charming one or the grumpy one? Or both?" Her eyes twinkled as she tugged at the shirt I was wearing. "What happened to your beautiful dress?"

"He ripped it off," I said as I pushed her away from the door and walked inside the apartment. Or she would just stand there and interrogate me. I slumped on the couch with a yawn. She gasped and fanned herself before she looked at me and scanned me up and down.

"Haven't slept at all?" Her wicked eyes were glinting in something akin to happiness.

I shook my head with a frown as I looked at her and then down at myself. Now that I was away from the soft glow Roman had put on me, the reality was even more stark.

"I need to take a bath and go back to the pack. I don't want to go back. I don't want to see his face, or breathe the same air as him." My voice came out whiny. I was scared of meeting my mate. The anger was so much that the pain was hiding behind it right now, but I knew it would come out once I met him face to face. The anger would drain and then the moments would come rushing back.

Dee hissed. "You can stay here as long as you want. You don't ever have to go back if that is what you want," she said as she sat next to me, rubbing her eyes.

"I know, but I have to go back. I couldn't run away anyway. He already knows what I did."

"So what? f**k him. He had no right to ask you to be faithful when he wasn't."

"I know. I am not worried about that or him. I am just worried about the pack and Reid and-"

"Reid loves you and he will gladly kill Hiran for you. And the pack loves you too. They simply tolerate Hiran." Dee was right.

My pack loved me. I loved them. We were small, but we took care of each other. I was twenty when I stumbled into Hiran. I was new to Crystal Park and I had only just moved here because of Dee and because I hated living in my old pack.

And then Crystal Park had become everything to me.

I would have to leave the pack once the bond between my mate and me was broken, but thinking about leaving the people who were basically my family... It pained me. I would gladly leave my f****g mate, but not the others. I was their Luna. Could I abandon them like that?

In two and half years since I found Hiran and mated and married him, the wolves in the pack had become family to me.

For a girl who had never seen or known her parents –no one knew about my parents, not Alpha James, the Alpha of my old pack, not anyone else– and had grown up almost like a rogue, without even a last name, Crystal Park pack had become everything and now because of Hiran I had to leave.

It made me even more angry.

"But Hiran is Reid's brother and I don't want them to ght with each other." I rubbed my forehead with a groan. It depressed me to even think about the consequences of my mate's and my actions.

"I want to kill f*cking Keller. He called last night. I didn't answer his call, though. He can go and jump from a bridge and die for all I care," Dee said with a scowl. She was such a good friend. Always loving and loyal. Yes, she was a bit crazy sometimes, but I would take her craziness any day.

"You don't have to stop talking to him just because I don't want to talk with him."

"I will stop talking with him because I detest him. No friend should ever do that to a friend. I don't care about your mate. But Keller should have never done this to you."

"Did he know I know?" I asked and she shook her head.

"No, I don't think so. Or he wouldn't have called me."

"Thinking about all this is giving me a headache. I really need a hot shower."

I grabbed a towel and grabbed a dress from the few dresses I kept in her apartment for our girls night. I had my own drawer, and she had hers in the pack house.

Having a girls night had become very rare, though, now that Hiran was in my life, but I persisted. She was my best friend before I met Hiran. I wouldn't give her up for anyone.

Keller was the same, too, just before I found him with my mate. We were like the three musketeers and now one of the asshole musketeers was dead to me. It was a bad feeling. To lose someone you had loved with all your heart.

I shook my head and pushed the thoughts of Keller and Hiran away.

I had to think about them for the rest of my day and my life. For now, I didn't want to think about them.

"Who do you want to think? Roman? Adrian?"

I stepped inside the bathroom and started the shower and my mind drifted to last night when I handcuffed Roman to bed and when I slid into his c*ck. My p*ssy clenched in remembering the feeling of him inside me. He was not too big, not too small like Hiran. He was perfect, and he felt perfect inside me.

"Oh, I wouldn't mind having his c*ck inside us again. And again."

"f**k, Gem. This is maddening," I said to my wolf as I soaped myself. I imagined it was Roman's hand. But it was Adrian's voice that whispered how good I smelled.

I arched against the wall, softly moaning. The images lling inside my head were too dirty for my innocent self. But after last night, I didn't feel too innocent, as well.

This was not good. I couldn't be attracted to two men, but thankfully, I would never meet them again, or this would be a freaking train-wreck.

I closed my eyes as I used the shower head and soon, I was trembling as pleasure took me to the edge. I could see both Roman and Adrian in front of me, Roman with his dark, penetrating gaze, and Adrian with his charming smile.

"You are such a good girl," they both said in unison and I bit my lips not to scream as I came again.

"Oh, I am f****g crazy. I think my head is still not working properly." I cursed myself as I stepped out of the shower.

I gulped water from the tap before quickly drying myself and walking out. Thank the goddess my best friend was a human, or she would have smelled my arousal already.

"Did you just masturbate thinking about the two hot Alphas?"

But then again, she was my best friend, and it was so unfortunate that she could read me like a freaking open book. I shook my head and she winked, looking like a cat that got its canary.

"You are an i****t," I grumbled as I tied my hair. "I should go."

"Come on, I will take you back to the pack," she said and grabbed her car key.

I dreaded going back, but I knew I had to. She drove me to the pack in silence. There was too much running inside my head right now. When she stopped in front of my pack house, she looked at me with concerned eyes.

"Do you want me to stay?"

"No, I need to deal with this by myself. Don't worry. I will be alright," I said, but even as I said that, I knew I wouldn't be. Not alright. Nothing would be alright after this. The pack house looked looming in front of me. This place I had loved for two years. This place I had called home. Now it looked like a house of horror, carrying my nightmares in its walls.

"Call me." She waited for a few minutes and then sped out of the driveway, looking worried. My stomach twisted as I walked towards the pack house. My steps were hesitant. I almost wanted to turn back and run away. And never come back here again.

If I wanted, I could disappear. Of course, I would be a rogue without a pack, but sometimes being a rogue was better than being tied with someone who didn't deserve you.

Hiran didn't deserve someone amazing like me.

All the love I had for him was now only bitterness. And anger.

A loud growl stopped me from entering inside the pack house. I whirled around and almost fell down from the steps when I saw Hiran glowering at me.

"Stop f*cking right there." His voice boomed out. I quickly looked around and thankfully not many were around.

Hiran marched towards me, his eyes gleaming in his rage. He glowered and my skin so tight, I could feel his bones pressing against mine. His claws elongated and tore my skin apart. I bit my lips to not whimper from the pain. I wouldn't. I wouldn't show him my weakness.

"What? What now?" I looked at him, my eyes emotionless.

"Who did you sleep with?" His eyes glowed in anger and possessiveness. His eyes turned dark black showing his wolf was ghting for dominance. "You are my mate and how dare you do this to-"

"f**k YOU." Gem hissed inside my head, looking so frustrated.

I shook his hand off from mine and he looked surprised. What did he think? That I would take it all like a fu.cking good girl, like I did once?

I did what I did for love, never out of fear. I was not a f.ucking doormat, but I was sure he assumed I was. It was my fault.

"Answer me, you b*tch."

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