

8. Broken bonds

-Riley-

Did the bastard just call me b***h?

Of course, there were only a few people milling around, but still... how could he do that to me? But then again, this was nothing.

Yeah, what did I expect from this asshole?

I looked around and some people around were starting to notice the anger between us.

I didn't want to make a scene in front of the pack. I rubbed my hands and winced as I walked towards the woods, my anger threatening to spill over. If I stood there another moment, I would shift and rip his eyes out.

"Seeing him like this... he has been pretending to be something he is not. And why did we fail to notice that? I am disgusted with myself for falling for this man. And his wolf," Gem said, looking very dejected.

I couldn't blame her for what she felt. I felt the same. I had believed that this man was my happy ending and here he was, disrespecting me in another way after he had already insulted our bond by cheating on me.

"Stop. I said stop," Hiran growled out in his Alpha voice. Fortunately, only a Luna and a mate had the power to resist the Alpha command. I could resist that. I knew he wouldn't stop following me, but I didn't care if he followed me or not. "How dare you disrespect your mate by sleeping with another man, and then walk into my pack like nothing happened?"

I stopped. I knew people still might hear. With the wolf hearing, even whispers could be heard. And here Hiran was, screaming. As if he had any right to scream or accuse me, or judge me.

My heart twisted. I had stopped crying though. It was like the shock had somehow blocked my tear glands.

"Weren't you doing the same thing for months to me?"

His eyes narrowed as he took a threatening step towards me. He could growl all he wanted, but I was not going to back off. He was the one who destroyed this. I didn't. He couldn't stand there and accuse me. How dare he! The asshole. He was looking at me, his eyes all judgemental? Didn't he feel ashamed to stand in front of me and act like he was the victim in all of this?

At that moment, I truly realized how much of a narcissist he was. I was too blinded by the bond to even see. The bond and the love. I had seen him act like an asshole to others, but he never showed that side of himself to me and I was a fool. That was the only thing I could say to myself.

"The moment you decided to f*ck Keller, you lost any right to use the word MATE. So, f*ck off, Hiran. I don't have to stand here and answer to you. I hate you, Hiran and I hope you-"

He gasped and his eyes widened. He was nally catching on, the bloody i****t. My ngers trembled as I whirled around, and as I looked at his face, I felt the anger slowly pulling away. I didn't want it to go away. If it left, I would feel the pain and I didn't want pain.

"Riley- that-" I knew he was going to give me excuses.

"Please, stop. Don't humiliate me by giving excuses. You did what you did," I whispered. My voice quivered with anger and disappointment as I nally looked him in the eyes. The blow to my heart was brutal. Everything I felt disappeared. Now, this was the moment I was dreading to face. I didn't want to feel weak. He didn't deserve my pain and my tears. No. No. Please. I didn't want to cry. "We made a bond under the moon goddess, a bond of trust and love. And yet, you betrayed that bond and now you are going to accuse me? ME? The one who stayed by you through it all? The one who had told you the pain was killing me and what did you tell me? Here. Take this medication and it will go away..." I scoffed.

He knew how much it was hurting me and he chose to lie and lie.

Hiran hung his head and then he sighed. "I know, Riley, and I am sorry," he said softly. But the hardness in his eyes was the truth. Not his apology. He was scrambling to nd a way to tie me down, but no...

Rule 1. No second chances.

That was what Dee would always tell me. She had a few relationships that ended because the men were assholes. But some wanted her back, and she would tell me... "No second chances, Riley, because they know what they did to me. I respect myself more than that."

And that had always stayed with me. I respected myself more. I had always been strong, despite everything. My love had made me soft, but now, no more.

"I made a mistake, and I'm so sorry. I never meant to hurt you, Riley. You know I will never do that to you."

"More lies. You did mean to hurt me," I whispered.

I felt a wave of exhaustion wash over. The day I saw him with Keller was nally catching up with me. I had been through so much with this man, and I had trusted him completely. But now, that trust was shattered. "You broke something sacred, something that was supposed to bind us together forever."

He reached out to touch my arm, but I quickly pulled away. "No," I said rmly and I could see his eyes hardening. "Leave me alone," I turned around and started to walk further in. I just wanted to be away from him.

I heard a loud snarl. The sound sent chills up my spine, but I would not let him control me, not anymore.

"You can't just walk away from me like that!" he shouted, his voice echoing through the trees, breaking along my skin. I felt the sting of those words everywhere. "You're my mate, and you're supposed to stand by me no matter what!"

No matter what? Was this man delusional, as well?

I didn't stop. I continued to walk.

"Stop. You have to obey your Alpha." He used his Alpha voice, once again.

I stopped in my tracks and turned to face him. "I don't have to obey anything you say, Hiran," I said, my voice steady. I was really proud of how strong I sounded. I didn't feel too strong though, on the inside. "I am the Luna, and your Alpha voice is not going to work on me. Also, on principle, I won't obey anything coming out of your f*ckhole. Not anymore."

"You can't talk like that to me."

"I will talk however I want to talk."

"You are my mate and you will be my mate."

"NO. I don't want that anymore," I said with a wince. Even saying the word hurt me in some way, but I knew what I wanted now, and that wasn't him. That was never going to be him.

Hiran's eyes glowed as he took a step towards me, his sts clenched at his sides. "What you want doesn't matter," he spat out, his voice made of venom. "You made a promise to me, a promise to the moon goddess. To our pack. You are the Luna. They need you."

He knew my weakness for the pack. He knew they were my family, how much I loved them and now he was using them.

I felt a surge of anger rise up within me. He was ugly as f*ck, the rat ba*stard. "How dare you," I said, my voice low and dangerous. "You're the one who betrayed our bond, and now you're trying to drag our pack into this? I don't want to do this anymore, Hiran. I will break the bond. I will reject you. You can't stop me."

"No, you can't. You are mine. You can't just back out of it because things got... hard."

"Yeah, the only thing that got hard is your pe.nis inside my best friend's mouth."

He ushered in embarrassment. "It was an accident. I didn't mean it to-"

I laughed as tears trailed down my cheeks. I didn't even wipe them. It wasn't from pain. No, I was really amused.

"How? I mean, can you please explain the physics of it? How did your c*ck slip into Keller's mouth for months, accidentally? Can we call Keller, too, so that you can- you know, show it to me? I have already seen it once and I don't think I will mind seeing it again."

"I know what you did too," my d*ckwad mate said, his voice cold and accusatory. "You've been with another man. We both cheated, Luna. It's equal now. We can forgive each other and move on, can't we?"

I wanted to punch and break his nose. The need was like physical pain. To harm him, to hurt him. "I'm done with this nonsense. You are- an ass.hole," I said as I shook my head. "Stay the hell away from me."

My heart was breaking further and further as he talked, but it would heal sooner, rather than later.

"It will. We will. Life goes on."

"Thank you, Gem."

"I will always side with you."

"I know," I said as I looked at the mate creature.

"I will call the council and ask for the breaking ritual. It is happening. You can't stop me. I am REJECTING you."

When a mate bond was made, only a few words couldn't break the bond. There were procedures, rituals, pain and blood, but I would take everything and anything. I turned, and this time I told myself I wouldn't stop. No matter what came out of his mouth.

"So... those omega pups you so love. What will happen to them once you go away?"

I felt a cold shiver run down my spine as he spoke of the pups. I had never seen him like this before. He had always been manipulative, using subtle barbs and hints to control me. But now, he was outright threatening me and the pups, too.

"You can't threaten me like that, you can't threaten your pack members like that," I said, my voice steely despite the fear I felt. "Our bond is supposed to be based on love and trust, not fear and threats. Are you going to use them to make me stay? When I don't want to?"

"I don't care what you want. I will do whatever I have to." He sneered at me. "You belong in my pack, with me. I forgive you for cheating on me. You should do the same."

"You can't hurt them. They are your pack."

"Do I look like someone who cares? You are my Luna, Riley, and you are not going to leave me. No one is going to laugh at me because my Luna left me."

"I will leave."

"If you do, I will take my anger out on those orphan pups you love so much. I will take away the lodging you had built for them, their food, their money. I will forbid them from going to school. They will be slaves in the pack and-"

"Stop. You are- don't be evil."

He laughed. His voice was cold, villainous. There was no shame or regret in his eyes. Only rage.

"Think twice, Riley, before you threaten me with breaking the bond. I can break more than just the bond, if you don't do as you are told."

"You are a freaking monster."

!!!