

No longer the same

"Enough!" Logan turned to look at Jacob and Moira, his head was already throbbing enough and yet these two were fighting like cats and dogs. Wheeling around he swept his cold gaze at the two before whispering in a deadly voice, "Is the trouble not enough that you two have to join in the fray as well?"

Both of them lowered their heads but Logan could sense that Jacob wasn't willing to let go of the matter, his dissatisfaction with him coursed inside him through the pack bond causing Logan to look at Jacob with a slight frown, hands behind his back he peered at his beta before parting his lips and speaking softly, "If you had so many things to say then why didn't you say anything before? After seven years why now?"

Jacob raised his head though he didn't unleash his dominant vibes the defiance in his eyes was pretty visible. "How was I supposed to say anything? Would you have listened if I said anything to you back then? You didn't even give Levy a chance to defend herself. You wouldn't have listened to a thing, back then you already believed that Levy killed Mavis, saying anything to you would have been a waste of time."

"Then why now?" Logan asked, if Jacob was going to choose him then he should have continued to choose him over and over again. What was with this sudden change of heart? Why was he suddenly acting up like this? "You stood by my side when I handed Levy's judgement so why are you pretending to be suddenly all nice now?"

"I am not pretending," answered Jacob with a mocking chuckle. "I chose you because that's what my duty asked me to do, you are my

alpha and I am your beta, if you point to a cliff and say that you want me to jump off then even if I don't want to do that I have no choice but do it because that's what it means to be a beta."

"If that's the case then you should continue acting like one!" Logan raised his voice, a blaze burning in his eyes while looking at Jacob. "The woman you call sister stole what was mine and yet here you are defending her in front of me! How dare you, Jacob Harlow!"

After the briefest hesitation, Jacob shook his head with a huff before raising his head and looking at him again. "Just as I said I won't believe it if you do not bring the evidence to me, Levy was in charge of Mavis's security, if she wanted she had many opportunities to kill Mavis swiftly without anyone finding out anything. My sister might be many things but she isn't a fool, Logan!"

Jacob shouted out the last words before shutting his eyes close, he took a deep breath while scrubbing his hands on his face. "I shouldn't have lost my temper like that."

"No you shouldn't have," conceded Logan as he ran his fingers through his hair feeling more annoyed than ever, not even a day passed and Levy seemed to have brought far more trouble than he expected. Derek was one thing but to think even Jacob was questioning his decisions as if he had done something really wrong.

The two didn't say anything for a long time but Jacob did take a step back showing his submission to Logan. "I don't want to question your decision nor do I want to rebel against you, Logan. I will be loyal to you just like before," a pause and then Jacob was looking him in the eyes as he swiftly added, "Just don't let me down, she... she is family, I hope you understand."

Given that his relationship with his parents was nothing but a toxic dynamic including Moira, Logan didn't know what exactly Jacob meant by that he will understand but Logan didn't want to fight with his beta, not at present when there was a threat hovering around them.

"Just leave," Logan pressed his fingers against his temples as he closed his eyes and took a breath. "I will see you later and we will talk when both of us have calmed down."

Jacob examined his face, Logan didn't know what he saw in his expression but he gave him a nod as he took three steps back. "I will see you later then." He had his head lowered but Logan didn't miss the determination in his eyes, he wasn't bluffing if he really handed Levy to Derek then his beta would definitely step down from his position.

"Yes, see you later." Damn that witch just what did she do to Jacob for him to act like this?

No, Jacob was always like this ever since Levy was imprisoned. Just how many times had he asked him to take a look at the situation carefully? Maybe Levy's arrival only gave what was coming a swift push.

Fine, whatever.

He wasn't going to hand Levy to Derek anyway.

There was nothing more to say.

It took a few moments for Jacob to get moving and once he did it didn't take long for others to leave the backyard after him. Logan too



ignored the reprimanding expression of his sister and walked out of the backyard heading to the sheer white porch at the back of the lodge of the main building but as soon as he stepped into the hall of the main lodge, he saw a figure standing outside the building, dressed in a sky blue hoodie with baggy jeans... Levy.

His eyes twitched as his wolf raised his head and took a whiff of her scent, seven years ago she smelled like jasmine and oranges and now that cutesy citrusy scent had morphed into something more mature — like the breeze flowing over a calm sea.

And maybe it was the calming scent or the indifferent glance that she cast on him but a sort of wake-up alarm rang inside Logan's head telling him that the woman in front of him was no longer the same. 1



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