

Chapter 120-1

We follow the shewolves through the woods for what feels like an eternity. I know that I’m slowing down, causing everyone else to do the same, but I truly am trying my hardest.

I don’t know how much longer we can stay in wolf form, age tells me, her voice sounding so weak.

I know she’s right, as I’m so tired I can barely keep my eyes open.

Daphne, how far away are we?

Maybe a half mile. Are you alright?

Not really. I shifted really late in life and it’s hard to stay in this form, especially being pregnant.

I know that’s more information than I should tell her, but Seth seems to trust her, so I need to as well.

Try, but if you need to shift back, we’ll still get you back safely. Just let me know if you need to.

I nod in understanding. She really seems to be trying to help Seth and Me. I take a deep breath and continue to walk, trying my very best. Finally, the packhouse comes into view, and just in time, as I’m not sure that I can walk another step.

We reach the front lawn and all shift back, but once I’m back into my human form, I have trouble standing up. My mom comes to me quickly, trying to help me stand. Benjamin walks up and scoops me into his arms and walks quickly up the stairs and into the house, carrying me directly into the room Seth and I have been sharing, placing me on the bed.

My mom enters the room behind him and closes and locks the door behind her, not allowing even the ladies who had led us back to safety enter. She crosses the room and walks up to the drawers with our clothes and pulls out a pair of Seth’s sweat pants and tosses them to Benjamin, moving to grab one of his dirty shirts out of the floor and tosses it to me.

“I…I…” she begins to say, still clearly upset about the events of the day. “I need to get his blood off of me,” she says, her voice barely a whisper and I can see tears forming.

“Thank you, Mom,” I whisper, knowing that she only killed a wolf because they were trying to hurt me, and she’s really struggling with that.

“Let me grab stuff to clean Molly’s bite first,” Benjamin says and walks into the bathroom, coming back with a few rags. “This will have to do until we can get something better from their medic.”

She just nods, grabbing some of my clothes out and walking to the bathroom, closing the door behind her. I hear the water turn on and just a moment after, I can hear my mom crying.

Benjamin sits on the bed next to me as I attempt to awkwardly cover myself with the shirt but still allowing him access to the injury. He wipes my shoulder with the soapy rag and then the clean, and repeats it a few times. “Are you alright, Kid?”

I nod, looking down at my legs. “I think so,” I say.

“The babies?” he says so quietly that I know I’m the only one that can hear?

“Babies?” I ask, my eyes wide. “What do you mean?”

He smiles and looks up at me. “It’s not a smell most wolves recognize, but I do. There’s a strong male wolf, yes. But there’s also the smell of gentle magic. It smells just like you did. There’s a little girl in there, too.”

I smile at him, so excited. “You’re sure?”

He nods. “I’d put my life on it. But you can’t tell Seth. He needs to be the one to discover it. Everything feels alright, though?”

“I think so,” I tell him, placing my hand over my stomach. “I don’t really feel anything. I just feel nauseous.”

“It’s alright, Kid. I’m sure they’re fine. They come from two very strong lines,” he says, standing up and moving the blankets to tuck me in. “Relax and sleep. I’ll be right here to protect you, and so is your mom.”

I snuggle into the pillows and sigh. My mom. “I’m sorry that I don’t call you Dad. It’s just…”

“It’s just that you have a dad,” he says, a sad look on his face. “It would hurt more if he wasn’t such a good dad. It’s fine, Kid, really. Just sleep.”

I fall asleep almost immediately and find myself in the meadow, Sage curled up, asleep. I move over and lay next to her, petting her head and falling back asleep next to her.

I feel the bed shift with weight and smell my mom as I feel her curl up behind me, pulling me into her arms. She must still be really upset, but I’m so tired I can’t even lift my head and fall right back asleep.

“Her wolf is so tired she can’t heal her,” I hear Benjamin say quietly. “It’s pretty bad. We need to get something on it to try to stop any infection. I don’t know what she was thinking, jumping in the fight like that.”

“She was trying to save me,” Seth says, sounding upset. “I need to get her away from here, but I need to stay. I don’t know what’s safest.”

“Whatever you decide,” Benjamin tells him. “I’m not going to leave her side. I know she’s your mate, but she’s still mine to protect, too. I’ll support whatever you decide.”

I want to keep listening, but I’m just so tired that I can’t, and I fall back asleep, yet again.

“Hey, Love,” I hear Seth say so gently and I feel him push my hair back from my face.