

Chapter 25-2

“What’s taking so long?” I hear Seth from behind me.

I turn to see him leaning against the door, his arms crossed, frowning at me. He'd be beautiful if he wasn't so mad at me. I don't want to admit that I can't do something as basic as tie my shoes, but I don't have anything else that will work for this long walk to the border. “I can't tie my shoes and I don't have anything without laces that will work.” I whisper, completely embarrassed.

I know he's upset with me, but I see his entire body visibly soften as he steps forward and takes my hand, realizing I'd removed the splint. “Why didn't you just come get me?”

“You're mad. I didn't want to bother you.” I say, pulling my hand away and wrapping my arms around myself.

“I'm not mad. I just don't know what to do, Molly.” he says, gently placing his hand on my hip and pulling me towards him slightly. His scent calms me some and he leads me back into the bedroom, pointing to the bed for me to sit. He surprises me as he grabs the splint and slides my finger back in before kneeling down and tying my shoes for me. To my surprise though, he doesn't stand immediately and places his forehead on my knees.

“I'm not going anywhere, Molly. Wolf or not, you're mine.” He whispers to me and then looks up to meet my eyes. “But I'm not going to do anything that could potentially hurt you.”

I nod at him, because the truth is that I do understand, but it still hurts. “I know. I just feel like I'm not good enough for you. Again.” I tell him honestly.

Seth moves to sit next to me on the bed and takes my hand. “You have no idea how much I want you, Molly. I swear, I'll mark you soon. But Altair is screaming at me frantically not to, and I have to listen to that.”

I nod at him in understanding as we both stand and go to the kitchen.

You good kid? My brother asks me, no doubt because of my tear-stained cheeks.

Yeah, just a little misunderstanding.

Are you sure? Need me to step in?

No, really. It's fine. I just got my feelings hurt, but we're OK now.

With that, my brother leaves it alone and we all eat in silence. Once done, we gather our things. After Rob and Seth go through their list of supplies to make sure it's all there, we head towards the door.

“Albert,” Seth says, turning to face him before opening the door. “Are you sure you're alright with this? If you're not all in, that's alright, but we need to know now.”

“I understand and accept what's been asked of me.” Albert tells Seth very seriously.

Seth nods to him. “If anything happens, Molly is your only priority. Not the Alpha, Luna, even the King or Queen.”

“I understand, your Highness.”

“Good.” Seth tells him. “Your loyalty will be rewarded when this is over, I can assure you.”

“Thank you, sir. But that is unnecessary.” Albert tells him. “Molly has always been a friend. There's no thanks or reward needed.”

And with that, Seth opens the door and we all walk out, heading to the border. It's a pretty long walk, almost an hour and a half, and I have to lead the way because my brother isn't sure exactly how to get to the spot my dad told us to go to. “Can you guys get back when you're home?” I ask them.

“Yes, I've been paying attention.” Seth tells me and I accept that.

We reach the spot and stop at the border. Albert stayed a few feet back to give us some time, but still close enough to jump in if anything happens. “You're sure about this? I won't be upset if you don't want to.” I say to Seth but to my surprise, my brother is the one who answers me.

“Molly, we're going.” Robbie says, a hint of irritation in his voice.

Seth steps towards me and kisses me deeply one last time before releasing me and taking a step across the property line, and then one step back, reaching back to guide me behind him. We stand there just a moment when we begin to smell the stench of rogue wolves. Two men appear, sickly thin and filthy, wearing clothes that seem to be two sizes too big as they stalk up to us slowly. Seth and Robbie both make a slight face at the smell but I begin to smell something else, it's almost like a faint smell of some kind of familiar chocolate, but the rogue stench is too strong to identify it.

One of the men, with dark eyes and sandy blonde hair, walks right up to Seth, stopping what seems like not even an inch away. He does something no one is expecting though, as he leans over to the side, looking past Seth and says “Hello, little Molly.”