

## Chapter 26-1

“Hello, little Molly.”

I can feel Seth’s entire body tense and become completely rigid in front of me at the sound of those words. “How do you know her name?” he growls out and the rouge just smiles a twisted, unhinged smile at him.

“I think you’ll find that little Molly is well known to us rouges. The Alpha's daughter with the broken wolf, a friend to omegas.” He tells Seth, completely unaware that he’s speaking to the Prince, or perhaps he’s aware but just doesn’t care.

Robbie takes a step to his side so that he’s right next to Seth, their arms touching in an attempt to block me from sight. Seth is staying visibly calm but I can feel through the bond that he is anything but.

“You crossed the border.” the brunette man tells Seth. “Why did you cross back?”

“I wish to speak to the leader. I’m requesting passage for Alpha Robert of the Lunar Falls and myself onto your lands.” Seth tells him authoritatively.

The blonde man seems unsurprised by his words. “For what reason?”

No one says anything for a moment and finally, Seth tells him, “I wish to locate a witch that lives on the land.”

The blonde smiles a sick smile, looking at Seth. “What does the Prince of Wolves need a witch for?”

I step out to the side from behind Seth and move to stand next to him. They seem to know about me, and seem to not have any ill will- towards me at least, so I take a chance with the truth. “I got hurt.” I begin, holding up my injured finger to the rogues. “You seem to already know I have a broken wolf. We’re hoping that the witch can help, so my wolf can fix my finger.”

“Won’t you heal eventually?” we hear a man's voice from the trees behind the men, obscured from sight.

“Umm... no.” I say, suddenly becoming very nervous.

“Molly damaged some important tendons. If this does not work, we will have to take her to the human world, and we’d like to avoid that.” Seth says, reaching out and grabbing my good hand.

“And why is the Prince involved in this matter?” the voice inquires.

“He’s my mate.” I say, squeezing Seth’s hand.

“I see. You have 48 hours.” The voice says, and that’s it.

I’m surprised, and wish I could see who was speaking, but there’s no visible sign of anyone. “Thank you.” I say, but he doesn’t respond and I feel like he’s already left.

Seth turns to me and kisses me on the forehead. “Go back with Albert. We’ll leave once you both are out of sight.”

Looking up at him, I pull on the front of this shirt to bring him down to my level and kiss him deeply. “I love you. Please be careful.”

“I love you, too.” he tells me, returning my kiss. “Don’t trust anyone other than your parents and Albert. Not until we know more.” and I nod in agreement. He releases my hand and lets my brother pull me into a hug.

“Be careful, kiddo.” Robbie tells me and kisses the top of my head and releases me, gently nudging me towards Albert and our packlands.

I walk towards Albert, turning back to see my mate and my brother watching me walk away, making sure I’m headed towards safety. I wave at them, my brother waving back and Seth motioning me to go. Once I reach Albert, we turn and walk away in silence, back to the packhouse.

We head through the packhouse and downstairs to my suite. Albert opens the door for me and we find my mother inside, sitting on my couch, just starting my favorite movie from when I was little. “Everything went OK then?” she asks upon seeing just the two of us walk in.

“Yeah. They were told they have 48 hours.” I tell her and she nods slowly.

Albert takes a step forward, “Luna, I’m going to go speak with Alpha Randall. Please link me if you all need anything.”

“Thank you. I’m sure we’ll be just fine.” She tells him with a kind smile and he leaves us.

“The circumstances are terrible, but I’d be lying if I said I wasn’t a little happy to be spending so much time with you now.” Mom tells me as I sit next to her and climb under the blanket.

“I know, Mom.” I tell her, grabbing a bowl of popcorn she had sitting on the table in front of us. “There’s been so much changing so quickly.”

She reaches over and grabs a handful out of the bowl “Do you want to talk about it?”

“Seth wouldn’t mark me last night” I softly say to my mom, embarrassed about it.

She coughs, choking a little bit. “Did he tell you why?”

“He said his wolf wouldn’t let him. He thought it could hurt my wolf.” I say sadly. “He told me before that he tried to mark other women he thought would be a better queen than me, but his wolf wouldn’t let him. What if his wolf doesn’t think I’m good enough, either?”

“I highly doubt that’s the case, Molly.” my mom attempts to reassure me. “His wolf is right. What if it hurts your wolf? He would never forgive himself.”

“He’s never going to be happy as long as I don’t have my wolf.” I tell her, admitting my fears. “He wants so badly to reach my wolf, but if it’s not possible, he’ll leave.”