

## Chapter 53-1

I wake up to find myself laying on the strong, comforting chest my mate, his arms wrapped tightly around me. The sun is starting to shine through the window and I'm sure it will wake Seth soon. I take advantage of the moment and reach into my mind, looking for the person I want to link and try to reach out to them.

Good Morning I say, not sure if I will wake them up this early, or if I even can with a mind link.

Molly? I hear and I'm relieved to know that it worked.

Yes, sir. It's me.

Is everything ok?

Yes, sir. I'm sorry to contact you so early. I wanted to before Seth woke up, though.

It's quite alright. You can link me anytime you need.

I... umm... I was wondering if we could possibly meet later today and talk. I have some questions for you. If that's OK.

Of course, Molly. I'm happy to speak with you.

Would 10:00 be alright?

Absolutely. Do you want me to come to you?

I hadn't considered a place, but having him come here seems like it would be a terrible idea.

Could you meet me in the garden behind the pack house?

Absolutely. I'll meet you wherever you'd like. Does Seth know?

I'm going to tell him.

He won't like this, and he may not let you.

It's not his choice. I'll see you at 10? I ask and I swear that I can hear him laugh through the link.

I wouldn't miss it for anything, Molly.

Seth begins to stir, rubbing his hand up and down my back. "Good morning, Love."

"Good morning," I tell him with a small smile and I decide to go ahead and tell him so he has time to accept it. "I'm meeting your father this morning to talk."

"Why?" he asks as I feel his entire body stiffen with anxiety.

"I need to talk to him. I have questions," I begin to explain. "He's your dad, Seth. We're going to have to live with him soon. I need things to be OK with him."

"When are we meeting him?" he asks and I just shake my head at him.

"This isn't a WE situation. You can walk me there," I tell him, afraid of his reaction. "I'm meeting him alone though."

"Molly, no. What if something happens?" he says reaching up to push my hair behind my ear. "I can't let anything happen to you."

I just smile at him, touched by his concern. "It won't, Seth. I'm sure of it. Sage said our bond is stronger than most and if anything happens to me it would sever the bond and would kill you. He won't risk hurting you."

Seth takes a deep breath and closes his eyes. "I'll stay close, but I don't like this."

We get up a bit later and make our way downstairs. Seth takes a shower and I get ready and dressed for the day. It's still so odd to have the complete use of my finger again just as I was adjusting to it being injured, but it's so nice to be able to do things myself again.

I get dressed in the black jeans and blue button-up shirt that was packed for me, putting my hiking boots back on since that's all I've got. I look at myself in the mirror and give up, going to seek out Oliver.

"Know anything about curly hair?" I ask him, walking in the room and seeing his back turned to me.

Oliver turns around, ready to say something but he stops when he sees my hair. "What the hell?!"

"I don't know how to take care of this," I say with an unsure look on my face.

"Do you want me to try to braid it?" he asks me. "Try to at least control it some?"

"Could you? It's a giant mess and I'm going to meet Seth's dad to talk." I tell him and his eyes look like they could pop out of his head.

"Sit down, let me try." he says, pulling a chair out for me to sit in. "So, you're meeting with the king? Are you OK?"

"Yeah, I am. It was my idea." I tell him as he parts my hair and ties back one half of it. "I've got to learn to live with him, and he offered to take a blood oath."

"Seriously? That's intense," he says and I agree. "Well, I'm making your favorite for breakfast. Maybe it will give you some courage."

"Thank you, Oli," I tell him, tears pricking my eyes. "Thank you for loving me."

"It's impossible not to love you," he tells me as he puts a hair tie in one braid and begins work on the other.

"I agree," I hear Seth say from behind us. "She's pretty amazing, huh?"

"She's OK," Oli says with a joking tone to his voice.

Seth comes and sits down next to me and smiles. "Are you sure this is what you want to do? I don't think he'll do anything to you."

"It's the right thing to do," I tell him, feeling a bit more comfortable with my plan, though still scared. "He's my mate's father. We have to work this out."

Oliver finishes my hair and walks back over to the stove to finish making breakfast. It smells so good and honestly, it just feels really nice to have a normal breakfast for once instead of cooking for the whole pack or having a formal meal because there's so many people visiting.