

Chapter 54-1

I tell Peter what I want in return for not requiring a blood oath from him and, while slightly surprised, he seems to be in full agreement.

“This isn’t how I expected this conversation to go, Molly,” he tells me, a timid smile on his face. “I am thankful for your decision to trust me. I’ll happily make this happen so the ramifications will not fall on Seth.”

“Thank you. May I ask you another question?” I ask him and he nods to me.

“Why do the rogues live in such a state? I mean, you saw Benjamin and Lily's cabin. There’s no electricity. They had water, though not hot, and I suspect that’s a luxury that most rogues aren’t allowed. They’re still subjects of the werewolf kingdom.”

“Most wolves sent to the rogue lands are sent as a punishment, though some just choose to,” he begins to tell me. “Benjamin was sent after continually being in contact with humans. I understood what he was trying to do, but we have laws about secrecy for a reason. If he had been more patient, and gone through the high counsel, we could have potentially changed them. He refused, though. He was a great Alpha, but he had no regard for the rules and why they were there in the first place.”

“But what about his wife and his sons?” I ask him, not understanding why the whole family was there.

“When the pack was broken up, the members were given the chance to join another. If you remember, you discovered your pack doctor was from Benjamin’s pack, originally.” He says and I nod, knowing now that there were a few members of my pack that were. “No pack could reject them, and as far as I know, they all have lived happy lives in their new packs. But when Benjamin was sent to the rogue lands, his wife and sons chose to go with him. We thought she was his mate, and that would make sense. Could you imagine living apart from Seth?”

I think about it for a moment. Could I live away from Seth? “No, I couldn’t. I’d live with no electricity for him.”

“Exactly. There was truly not anything that gave any indication she wasn’t his mate. His Beta and Gamma were also sent to the rogue lands- their mates following as well. It was surprising to us though, just how many pack members also chose to follow. Eventually, Benjamin started to coordinate them in the rogue lands, forming a pack out there, which is against everything it’s supposed to be.”

I nod in understanding. It’s not much of a punishment if your pack goes with you, and you remain the alpha.

“I killed his boys in fear of them fulfilling a prophecy and taking our throne, but I had his mate killed to weaken him in an attempt to stop the organization of a pack in the rogue lands.” he tells me, placing his head in his hands. “I realize now that it did nothing though, and that you we’re the key the whole time.”

“Me?” I ask him, confused.

“Yes, Molly. You were the one the prophecy was about, and it was never about a stolen throne.” He says to me with a small smile and glances up at Seth. “That prophecy was going to be fulfilled by you the entire time. I suspect that if you had been raised by them and Seth knew who your parents were, I would never have been able to keep him away from you if I wanted to. Benjamin wasn’t weakened by the loss of his wife, or his sons, though. When I’ve thought back now over the timing of it all, he was weakened when you were adopted.”

I nod, finally understanding. “They told me it’s because the bond between a father and child was severed in the adoption, not from a natural cause. You should know that there’s a chance he’ll regain his strength now that Seth has marked me- because the bond to protect me from the adoption was severed, as Seth created a new one.”

“That is an interesting theory,” he says, furrowing his brow. “You’re an interesting young lady, Molly. Causing so many things to happen without trying to. Without ever even knowing you did any of it.”

“Will you attack Benjamin if he regains his strength?” I ask him, unsure if I even want to know the answer.

“I won’t do anything to Benjamin as long as he does not try to assemble a pack,” he tells me. “If it comes to it though, I will take your feelings into consideration, and will tell you before taking action.” I nod in response. That’s probably the best that I could hope for.

“But Molly, I need you to understand something, and I have a question for you,” he tells me and I look at him with confusion.

“I’m not a young man. I’ve held my throne waiting for Seth to find his mate, for him to have completed the mate bond that will make him even stronger. Once you mark him, and I assume you’re able to now that you have your wolf,” he asks and I nod in response.

"Yes, sir," I tell him, feeling a little uncomfortable discussing this with my father-in-law. "I'll be able to after I shift."

“Oh, good,” he tells me and I can see the relief on his face. “Seth would not have reached his full strength before, when you were unable to mark him. To be clear though, that was never an issue for any of us. But now that you are, I truly want to hand the throne to you all sooner rather than later. This would likely cause any issues with Benjamin to be yours and Seth’s to handle.” he tells me, and I must look shocked.