

Chapter 68-1

As we reach the border I can see Alex's blonde hair, and around a dozen men with him. Stevie takes off running towards his dad and leaps into his arms.

“What were you thinking?” I can hear him ask his son, holding him at arms length, inspecting him for injury.

“I got lost,” I hear Stevie respond with a lie. Interesting. I guess he’s not going to sell out his brothers.

As we get closer, I see that 3 of the men look like older versions of Stevie, and 2 of them don’t actually even look old enough to have shifted.

“Boys,” Alex says, turning to the younger boys. “Take your brother home. Your mother won’t be happy until she can see him herself.”

We stop at the line, waiting for the OK to cross. I look at Alex and he motions me over. As I get close to him, he opens his arms and gives me a giant hug.

“Thank you,” he whispers into my ear.

I nod and smile. “You know he’s not telling you the truth, right?”

“I suspect my other sons had something to do with it,” he says, releasing me. “No one is giving up any information yet, though.”

“He may have gotten a little scared when he found out the King is still visiting our pack,” I tell him with an unsure smile. “Prince Seth may have played into it to get him to talk. I swear though, he was never actually in any danger. We just scared him a little to get him to talk.”

He nods at me. “Want to tell me why he was there?”

“Want to tell me why you didn’t contact me about the missing she-wolves out here?” I return and he looks surprised.

He stares at me, not giving anything away with his face, and certainly not giving me any information.

“There aren’t any missing from Lunar Falls and to the Alpha’s knowledge, the pack has nothing to do with it,” I tell him and he nods.

“The new Alpha, your adopted brother,” he begins. “He’s a good man?”

I smile a bright smile at him. “He’s the best, Alex. HE made sure Stevie was safe the whole time, not me.”

“May as well bring them on over,” he says and waves them in. “I can fill you all in on the situation as we walk. Lily is very excited about seeing you.”

“And Benjamin?” I ask him, looking down at my feet.

“We all know what you remember now, Molly,” he says to me. “We all know you’re going to need some time. Want to tell me what happened with your magic? Lily was thrilled to find out that you still have it.”

“I accidentally used it,” I tell him as Seth approaches us. “I cut down a tree, but I wasn’t trying to.”

“You uprooted it, Love,” Seth says to me and holds his hand out to Alex. Alex bows slightly and shakes his hand.

“We didn’t properly meet before,” Seth says to him. “I’m Prince Seth. And you’re Beta Alex, correct?”

Alex looks at him and c**s an eyebrow. “I am. I assume my son had a lot to say?”

“We didn’t press for too much,” Seth tells him. “We mostly wanted to know why you have wolves at the border.”

“That’s a conversation that would be best to have with Benjamin,” he says and Seth nods at him, glancing at Robbie, who also nods once. “It’s not a new issue, but it is resurfacing again now.”

We begin to walk towards the cabin, Alex leading the way. Alex tells them a few funny stories of me as a kid, a couple of which I don’t even remember. As we approach the cabin, I stop and take a moment, taking a deep breath. “You can do this” I tell myself, still unsure how I feel about having any kind of magical ability. I almost convince myself I’m ready and I see the cabin door start to open revealing Lily, who runs out to me and pulls me into a hug.

“I was so worried you’d never be back,” she whispers to me, and I can feel her tears fall onto my shoulder.

I was so unsure about this, but now that her arms are around me, I can’t help but return her hug. “I wasn’t sure I would be. I’m sorry.”

“It’s OK, dear,” she tells me and I nod. “A lot happened. I’ll answer any questions you have, about the past, or magic, or anything. Just please, keep coming to see me.”

“I… I can’t,” I tell her and I can feel her sob. “It’s not you. After the full moon and I shift, we have to leave for the palace.”

“Maybe we can visit you,” she says hopeful, pulling back to meet my eyes.

“I’d like that,” I tell her and she nods. “I’m not sure Benjamin would be willing, though.”

“Maybe some day,” she tells me, taking my hand in hers and leading us into the house.

I won’t go far, Love. If you need anything, I’ll be right there. I hear Seth say in my head.

Lily and I step inside with Alex, everyone else staying outside on the porch to give us some time. Benjamin stands as I enter and takes a few steps towards me, but doesn’t come all the way to me.

“Hello, Molly,” he says with an unsure smile.

“Hello,” I say, chewing on my lip.