

## Chapter 118

### All Is Fair In Love

"Noah?" Ava called as she walked through the front door of the lake house, dumping her bags by the front door. "When did you get home?"

The large home was nearly completely dark and silent, but the cheery fire dancing in the living room fireplace told her that barring an extremely uncharacteristic lapse in judgment, Noah was somewhere nearby.

Sure enough, no sooner did she flick on the living room light than Noah appeared barefoot at the back doors. He shook leaves from his closely cropped hair as he slid the glass door panels aside and stepped inside. As soon as he saw her, his face lit up.

"How did it go?"

Ava was across the room in a flash, flinging her arms around him. He caught her as she wrapped her legs around his waist and buried his nose in her hair. "God, I missed you," he groaned. "It feels like it's been too damn long since we've been in our home together."

He pulled back, and Ava immediately closed the distance, pressing her lips against his. Noah immediately responded, urging her lips to part with his tongue before delving inside. Their kiss held a desperation to it, the sort of cathartic release that came from two opposing forces, finally coming back together in a spark of white-hot heat.

Ava pressed her nose into Noah's shirt and breathed deeply. She was suddenly met with a medley of evergreen and fresh rain that made her sigh. "You smell like the woods."

Noah chuckled as he walked over to the kitchen island with Ava still in his arms. He set her on top of one of the counters but stayed close, unwilling to put any more physical distance between them. "I went for a run," he said. "I saw my mother today. I love the woman, but she can set Maxis off like no one else."

"Maybe I could join you on your next run?" Ava asked tentatively.

Noah cocked his head in surprise, but a smile quickly formed on his lips, "I'd like that."

Since Mia had been such a tender topic for Ava until recently, they didn't talk about their Wolves very often, and Ava had only caught a glimpse or two of Maxis' massive dark figure along the shadowy tree line along the property. Mia and Maxis were cordial enough, but neither beast showed much interest in the other. Now that Mia was on the mend and Ava had regained her ability to shift, that was something that she hoped to change soon enough. "What happened with your mom?" Ava asked.

Noah's eyes went distant as he ran a lock of Ava's hair through his fingers, "She isn't as pleased with our plans for the Council as I thought she'd be. It doesn't matter. I'd much rather hear about how the trial went." Ava shrugged, "It was a trial. With Victor behind bars and everyone else involved dead or unknown, the only thing left is for the survivors to finally grieve. There are just...a lot more victims than I realized." "When I have control of Eclipse, I swear to do everything in my power to track down my father's old contacts. If the assassins still walk this planet, they will pay for what they've done, Ava."

She pressed her forehead against his, "I know you will, and thank you for that."

"Will you be going back to Red Moon? It'll be a hell of a commute between here and Eclipse, but I'm willing to make it work if you are."

"That's sweet, but I'll be keeping my visits to Red Moon at an absolute minimum. My visit proved that my relationship with my parents is...strained, but I think it may be salvageable. At least, I'm willing to try,"

Ava sighed. "And with Aiden moving across the country, I'm the only family they have left."

"Aiden is moving? You mean he trusts you to live all alone in this big old house in the woods with me?" Noah grinned wide, showing a thrilling amount of fang.

"You don't see him here, do you?" She quipped. "Bren is going to California to study for a semester, and he's going with her."

Ava bit her lip and hesitated before adding, "They asked me if I wanted to join them."

"Did you?" Noah asked, leveling her with a steady look.

Ava shook her head emphatically, "I'm not going with them."

"But did you want to?" He insisted. "Going to California was a big goal of yours, Ava. You've been talking about it since I've known you. I don't want you to feel like you can't for my sake."

"Noah," Ava's voice wavered, and she had a hard time meeting his eyes. "It feels like we only just made our way back to each other."

Noah brought a hand up to cup her chin, urging her gaze back to his, "Love isn't dictated by location, Ava. I'll love you here just as much as I'll love you across the country."

"A-are you sure?"

"Our hellish commute will be about three thousand miles longer, but it's only for a few months," Noah smirked. "I'm willing to make it work if you are."

Ava took his face between her hands and pulled his lips to hers. This kiss was altogether different from the last, the harried desperation from before now replaced by the slow, aching burn of pent-up passion. "I want you, Noah." Ava murmured against his lips, "All of you."

Noah nuzzled kissed down the column of Ava's throat, "I want you, too, love. Always."

Ava pulled back and shook her head. "No, Noah, I mean it," she said as she lost herself in his black diamond eyes. "I know that it's taken me a while to get here, but I'm ready. I want to be with you." "You're sure?" He asked carefully. "There's no rush for me, Ava. I- "

She brushed her thumb across his lips to silence him, "I'm so sure, Noah. I want you."

Noah swept her into another kiss which Ava leaned into, wrapping her arms around Noah's neck and pressing her body as close to his as she could. He tipped her head back, allowing for better access as he played, stroking and plying her with gentle but demanding kisses.

From the spot where their hips met, Ava felt Noah begin to respond, and, in turn, the press of his arousal stoked her own simmering inferno. She pulled back, breaking Noah's mind-numbing exploration to pull her shirt over her head, tossing it off into the distance.

Noah was quick to take advantage of the opportunity, running his hands down her naked torso, causing her over-sensitive skin to prickle beneath his touch. Slowly, he kissed his way down her throat and chest, switching between languid open-mouthed kisses to gentle nips along the swells of her breasts.

With expert dexterity, Noah released the clasp on her bra, letting it fall away to bare herself to him. When his mouth closed over her nipple, she gasped. Ava continued to purr her appreciation as he spent the next few minutes lavishing her breasts with attention, building the heat between her thighs.

Then, Noah moved, sliding his tongue down her body, stopping to dip into the hollow of her belly button. Noah let out a breathless chuckle when she began to squirm beneath him.

"God, I love how responsive you are," he breathed as he swirled his tongue around her belly button and followed it with a stream of cool air. "I need to taste you."

Ava shivered at his words, but when he moved to undo her jeans, she put a hand on his, halting him, "We're in the kitchen!"

Noah's smile was slow and brimming with devious intent, "That's where we eat, Ava."

Her hand fell away as he grabbed the waistbands of her jeans and underwear and pulled them down her legs, peppering her scar, her thighs, her legs with sweet pecks all the way down. Ava shifted restlessly under his ministrations, but luckily Noah was finished playing.

He pried her thighs wide and licked along the length of her slit before delving in, licking, and suckling, and nibbling her straight to the brink. Ava threw her head back and moaned, feeling wanton and utterly undone as she spread her legs even further and began to roll her hips, riding Noah's face.

"That's it, baby," he growled. "Let yourself go."

And she did. The last of Ava's inhibitions fled when Noah closed his lips over her clit and inserted a finger, pumping it in and out before adding another. She fell back onto the counter, holding herself up on her forearms,

and followed Noah's rhythm, grinding her hips into his hand, sending his fingers deeper.

The pleasure built quickly, a wash of electricity spreading throughout her entire body. As soon as she got to the point where her mind went deliciously blank, Ava grasped both of her nipples between her fingers and pinched hard, throwing herself over the edge.

She was still in the midst of her climax, her body pulsating when Noah grabbed her up and made for the stairs. In a flash, they were in their room, and Noah was tossing her onto their bed. Ava opened up her arms, beckoning him to her. Noah disrobed and dropped onto her, pressing the full impressive breadth and width of him on top of her. They came together in a fervent clash as their tongues battled for supremacy between them. Ava groaned into his mouth as she tasted herself on his lips, and she felt Noah's thick length twitch against her belly.

"I want you inside of me, Noah," she demanded.

"Are you su- "

Ava bit his lip hard enough to shut him up, "I don't want to talk anymore, Noah. I want you to fuck me."



That was enough. A deep rumbling emanated from Noah's chest, and he spread her with one broad hand and shoved two fingers in deep, making her gasp and moan in utter delight as her body stretched around him.

After a few seconds warming her up, his hand was gone, replaced by the wide, blunt head of his cock. Ava felt her breath catch as a quick flash of nervousness overtook her, only to fade as fast as it had arrived when Noah brushed a thumb across her lips, drawing her back into the moment with him.

"I love you, Ava."

"And I love you...."

He took the rest of her words into his mouth as he swept her into another bone-melting kiss. And as he did, he flexed his hips and entered her for the first time. Ava gasped into his mouth, and he drank it in, soothing and distracting her with kiss after intoxicating kiss.

When her muscles began to relax, he moved again, his lips tingling with the vibration of his own growls of pleasure as he began to set a pace. Ava let her knees fall completely to her sides, welcoming him to love her as deeply and as thoroughly as he could.

Noah took the invitation, hooking his hands underneath her thighs and quickening the pace, spearing Ava with a barrage of sensation she'd never

before experienced. It didn't take long for Ava's next climax to begin nipping at her heels, getting so, so close but never quite in reach.

"Noah, I need to come," she gasped, and he immediately knew what she truly required.

He pushed up onto his knees and grasped Ava by the hips. Without warning, Noah thrust his hips hard, ramming into her once, twice with a force he hadn't yet dared to during her first experience. The sudden brunt of his cock slamming into her cervix shot Ava into the hardest orgasm she'd ever felt, wringing a strangled cry from her throat as her body began to shake with the intensity of her contractions.

Noah groaned and stiffened as her inner walls began to milk him, triggering his own orgasm. When Noah finally collapsed back onto her, he rolled onto his back, carrying her with her. Ava's body still shook with rippling aftershocks as she lay completely spent on Noah's chest.

"Did your first time live up to your expectations?" Noah asked.

Ava patted his chest and laughed, "I didn't have any expectations before, but I sure fucking do, now. Good luck topping yourself, sir. Over and over again."

Noah pulled her close and pinned her beneath him once again, "Good thing I love a challenge."